

2010

UNI Basketball 2010 Panther Postseason Media Guide

University of Northern Iowa

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UNI Basketball

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA 2010 PANTHER POSTSEASON MEDIA GUIDE



**2008-2009 & 2009-2010
Missouri Valley Conference
Back-to-Back Champions**



Upper NW UNI-Dome • Cedar Falls, Iowa • 50614-0314 • <http://www.unipanthers.com>
Colin McDonough (319-273-5456) • Kara Moran (319-273-5455) • Laurie Wild (319-273-3783)
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2009-10 UNI MEN'S BASKETBALL MARCH 15, 2010

2009-2010 Schedule/Results (28-4, 15-3 MVC)

Oct. 31 Upper Iowa (Exhib.) **W, 67-39**
Nov. 7 UNC-Pembroke (Exhib.) **W, 79-44**
Nov. 13 at Denver **W, 71-65**

Paradise Jam (St. Thomas, Virgin Islands)

Nov. 20 vs. DePaul **L, 60-52**
Nov. 21 vs. East Carolina **W, 74-68**
Nov. 23 vs. Boston College **W, 81-69**

Nov. 28 Northern Illinois (PSN/Mediacom) **W, 52-45**

Dec. 2 at Iowa State (Mediacom/CFU) **W, 63-60**

Dec. 8 Iowa (PSN/Mediacom) **W, 67-50**

Dec. 12 Siena (PSN) **W, 82-65**

Dec. 19 at North Dakota **W, 64-41**

Dec. 23 Wyoming (PSN/Mediacom) **W, 72-54**

Dec. 29 at Creighton* **W, 60-52**

Jan. 1 Evansville* **W, 65-46**

Jan. 3 Missouri State* (PSN) **W, 84-76**

Jan. 6 at Southern Illinois* (ESPN2) **W, 61-49**

Jan. 9 at Illinois State* (ESPN2) **W, 59-44**

Jan. 12 Bradley* (ESPN2) **W, 52-50**

Jan. 16 Indiana State* (PSN) **W, 62-40**

Jan. 19 at Wichita State* (ESPN2) **L, 60-51**

Jan. 24 at Indiana State* (MVC TV) **W, 67-58**

Jan. 27 Drake* (PSN/CFU/Mediacom) **W, 67-51**

Jan. 30 at Missouri State* **W, 55-54**

Feb. 3 Wichita State* (PSN) **W, 59-56**

Feb. 6 Southern Illinois* (ESPN2) **W, 55-52**

Feb. 10 at Drake* (Mediacom/CFU) **W, 57-48**

Feb. 13 at Bradley* (MVC TV) **L, 68-59**

Feb. 16 Creighton* (MVC TV) **W, 70-52**

Feb. 19 Old Dominion (ESPN2) **W, 71-62**

Feb. 23 at Evansville* **L, 55-54**

Feb. 27 Illinois State* (ESPN2) **W, 61-55**

State Farm MVC Tournament (St. Louis, Mo.)

March 5 vs. Drake (MVC TV) **W, 55-40**

March 6 vs. Bradley (MVC TV) **W, 57-40**

March 7 vs. Wichita State (CBS) **W, 67-52**

NCAA Tournament (Oklahoma City, Okla.)

March 18 vs. UNLV (CBS) **6:10 p.m.**

All times central

Home games in **bold** and played in the McLeod Center

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TICKETS, APPAREL, & EVERYTHING PANTHER

THIS WEEK IN PANTHER HOOPS



Game #33: NCAA Tournament First Round
Thurs., March 18 - 6:10 p.m. (Central)
Ford Center - Oklahoma City, Okla.
Radio: Panther Sports Network
TV: CBS



The No. 9-seeded University of Northern Iowa men's basketball team (28-4 overall, 15-3 MVC) will take on the UNLV Rebels (25-8 overall, 11-5 MWC) in the first round of the NCAA Tournament in the Midwest bracket at the Ford Center in Oklahoma City, Okla. Tip is scheduled for 6:10 p.m. on CBS.

TIPPING OFF ...

- UNI and UNLV will be meeting for the first time ever on the hardwood.
- UNI is making its sixth appearance in the NCAA Tournament. The Panthers are 1-5 all-time in the NCAA Tournament. UNLV is making its 17th appearance in the NCAA Tournament with a mark of 33-15. The Rebels' program has made four Final Four appearances (1976-77, 1986-87, 1989-90 and 1990-91).
- UNI earned its highest seed ever in the NCAA Tournament with a No. 9 seed. UNI's previous high was No. 10 in the 2006 vs. Georgetown.
- The Panthers are making their fifth NCAA appearance in seven years – the best mark in the Missouri Valley Conference.
- UNI earned the MVC's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament after capturing the league tournament title with wins over Drake (55-40), Bradley (57-40) and Wichita State (67-52) in St. Louis.
- Point guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe was named the MVC Tournament's Most Outstanding Player after posting a 24-point effort in the title game.
- The Panthers rank No. 2 in the nation in scoring defense (54.3 ppg) and set a MVC Tournament record by allowing only 44.0 points per game in sweeping its three opponents. The previous MVC Tournament best was 49.0 ppg by Southern Illinois in 2006.
- UNI's winning percentage (.875) ranks as the sixth-best mark nationally.
- UNI's top seven scorers – Adam Koch (129 games), Jordan Eglseider (115), Kerwin Dunham (98), Kwadzo Ahelegbe (96), Lucas O'Rear (93), Ali Farokhmanesh (66) and Johnny Moran (64) – have played in a combined 661 career games heading into the MVCTournament. Those seven players have also accumulated 369 career starts for the Panthers.
- Adam Koch has been named as one of 10 male finalists for the 2009-10 Lowe's Senior CLASS Award. Koch was also selected the Larry Bird MVC Player of the Year and the MVC Scholar-Athlete of the Year.

PROBABLE UNI STARTERS

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Hometown	PPG	RPG
53	Jordan Eglseider	C	7-0	280	Sr.	Bellevue, Iowa	12.0	7.3
34	Adam Koch	F	6-8	255	Sr.	Ashwaubenon, Wis.	11.8	4.9
5	Ali Farokhmanesh	G	6-0	190	Sr.	Iowa City, Iowa	9.3	1.5
11	Kwadzo Ahelegbe	G	6-2	200	Jr.	Oakdale, Minn.	10.7	3.2
13	Johnny Moran	G	6-1	190	So.	Algonquin, Ill.	5.6	3.4

OFF THE BENCH

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Hometown	PPG	RPG
10	Brian Haak	G	6-1	175	Sr.	Spencer, Iowa	0.0	0.2
20	Jake Koch	F	6-9	255	R-Fr.	Ashwaubenon, Wis.	3.2	2.8
22	Kerwin Dunham	G	6-6	200	Jr.	Bondurant, Iowa	3.6	1.1
23	Marc Sonnen	G	6-3	185	Fr.	St. Paul, Minn.	2.7	1.2
32	Lucas O'Rear	F	6-6	255	Jr.	Nashville, Ill.	4.3	4.5
43	Adam Rodenberg	C	6-6	245	Sr.	Garnaville, Iowa	0.4	0.6
52	Anthony James	G	6-0	175	R-Fr.	St. Louis, Mo.	1.9	0.3

2009-2010 Missouri Valley Conference Standings

School	Conference		Overall	
	W-L	Pct.	W-L	Pct
UNI	15-3	.833	28-4	.875
Wichita State	12-6	.667	25-9	.735
Illinois State	11-7	.611	22-10	.688
Creighton	10-8	.556	16-15	.516
Indiana State	9-9	.500	17-14	.548
Bradley	9-9	.500	16-15	.516
Missouri State	8-10	.444	20-12	.625
Drake	7-11	.389	14-19	.424
Southern Illinois	6-12	.333	15-15	.500
Evansville	3-15	.167	9-21	.300

This Week in the Missouri Valley Conference

Tuesday, March 16

South Dakota at Creighton, 7 p.m. (CIT)

Wednesday, March 17

Illinois State at Dayton, 6 p.m. (NIT)

Nevada at Wichita State, 7 p.m. (NIT)

Middle Tennessee St. at Missouri State, 7:05 p.m. (CIT)

Thursday, March 18

UNI vs. UNLV, 6:10 p.m. (NCAA)

MVC Tournament Results

Thursday, March 4

#8 Drake 63, #9 Southern Illinois 61

#7 Missouri State 52, #10 Evansville 46

Friday, March 5

#1 UNI 55, #8 Drake 40

#5 Bradley 81, #4 Creighton 62

#2 Wichita State 73, #7 Missouri State 63

#3 Illinois State 69, #6 Indiana State 65

Saturday, March 6

#1 UNI 57, Bradley 40

#2 Wichita State 65, Illinois State 61

Sunday, March 7

#1 UNI 67, #2 Wichita State 52

MVC All-Tournament Team

Kwadzo Ahelegbe, UNI (Most Outstanding Player)

Jordan Eglseider, UNI

Sam Maniscalco, Bradley

Garrett Stutz, Wichita State

Clevin Hannah, Wichita State



State Farm

SCOUTING UNLV REBELS

The UNLV Rebels will enter the NCAA Tournament with a record of 25-8 overall. UNLV is the No. 8 seed in the Midwest Regional bracket.

The Rebels are one of four teams from the Mountain West Conference to earn slots in this year's NCAA Tournament. UNLV is joined by BYU (#7 seed in West Regional), New Mexico (#3 seed in East Regional) and San Diego State (#11 seed in Midwest Regional).

UNLV and UNI share a common opponent this season in Southern Illinois. UNLV scored a 78-69 win over the Salukis on Nov. 21. UNI swept a pair of games from the Salukis (61-49 and 55-52).

UNLV is led in scoring by Tre'Von Willis at 17.3 points per game. Chace Stanback averaged 10.7 points per contest and leads the team in rebounding at 5.8 per game.

UNLV is led by head coach Lon Kruger.

PANTHER SPORTS RADIO NETWORK

UNI's men's basketball games can be heard on the Panther Sports Radio Network, with KXEL (1540 AM, Waterloo, Iowa) serving as flagship station. Affiliates include KGYM (1600 AM, Cedar Rapids), KCHA (95.9 FM and 1580 AM, Charles City), KXNO (1460 AM, Des Moines), KQCR (98.9 FM, Hampton), KQMG (95.3 FM, Independence), KRIB (1490 AM, Mason City), KILJ (105.5 FM, Mount Pleasant), KWQC (1570 AM, Webster City).

Long-time Panthers announcer Gary Rima handles play-by-play duties, while Kevin Boyle serves as analyst. Head coach Ben Jacobson's weekly radio call-in show will air on Thursdays, at 6:05 p.m., live from Beck's On The Hill in Cedar Falls.

NCAA TOURNAMENT TV COVERAGE

UNI's first round NCAA matchup will be broadcast on CBS. Kevin Harlan (play-by-play) and Dan Bonner (analyst) will call the action courtside at the Ford Center. Harlan and Bonner called UNI's first-round game last season against Purdue.

Bonner also served as an analyst in UNI's only NCAA Tournament victory - a 74-71 win over Missouri in 1990.

SIXTH NCAA APPEARANCE FOR UNI PANTHERS

UNI is making its sixth appearance in the NCAA Tournament. The Panthers are 1-5 all-time in the NCAA Tournament.

All six of UNI's previous NCAA Tournament games have been decided by five points or less.

UNI'S ALL-TIME NCAA TOURNAMENT RESULTS

1990 - W, 74-71 vs. #3 Missouri (Richmond, Va.)

1990 - L, 84-81 vs. #6 Minnesota (Richmond, Va.)

2004 - L, 65-60 vs. #3 Georgia Tech (Milwaukee, Wis.)

2005 - L, 57-52 vs. #6 Wisconsin (Oklahoma City, Okla.)

2006 - L, 54-49 vs. #7 Georgetown (Dayton, Ohio)

2009 - L, 61-56 vs. #5 Purdue (Portland, Ore.)

2009-2010 UNI Men's Basketball Quick Facts

School University of Northern Iowa
 Nickname Panthers
 Colors Purple and Old Gold
 Enrollment 13,080
 President Ben Allen
 Director of Athletics Troy Dannen
 Arena McLeod Center (6,650)

Head Coach Ben Jacobson
 Record at UNI and Overall 85-42 (4 yrs.)
 Office 319-273-7609
 Assistant Coaches Kyle Green, P.J. Hogan,
 Ben Johnson
 Director of BB Operations Derrick Netten
 Athletic Trainer Don Bishop

PANTHERS EARN HIGHEST SEED IN SCHOOL HISTORY

UNI earned its highest seed ever in the NCAA Tournament with a No. 9 seed. UNI's previous high was No. 10 in the 2006 NCAA Tournament vs. Georgetown.

UNI SEEDS IN THE NCAA TOURNAMENT

1990 - #14 vs. #3 Missouri
2004 - #14 vs. #3 Georgia Tech
2005 - #11 vs. #6 Wisconsin
2006 - #10 vs. #7 Georgetown
2009 - #12 vs. #5 Purdue
2010 - #9 vs. #8 UNLV

5TH NCAA APPEARANCE IN 7 YEARS - CLASS OF THE MVC

The Panthers are making their fifth NCAA appearance in seven years – the best mark in the Missouri Valley Conference.

AUTOMATIC

UNI earned the MVC's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament after capturing the tournament title with wins over Drake (55-40), Bradley (57-40) and Wichita State (67-52). It's the fourth time in six appearances that UNI will use an automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament.

UNI used automatic bids to reach the NCAA Tournament in 1990 (Mid-Continent Tournament Champions), 2004 (MVC Tournament Champions), 2009 (MVC Tournament Champions) and 2010 (MVC Tournament Champions).

KOCH, EGLSEDER NAMED TO USBWA ALL-DISTRICT TEAM

The U.S. Basketball Writers Association (USBWA) has released its 2009-2010 All-District teams, based on voting from its national membership. UNI seniors Adam Koch and Jordan Eglseider were both named to the All-District team in District VI.

The USBWA honors players in nine regions across the country. Koch and Eglseider were tabbed as All-District performers in District VI, which consists of all Division I institutions in Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Koch has previously been named the Larry Bird Missouri Valley Conference Player of the Year and the MVC Scholar-Athlete of the Year for 2009-10. In addition, he is one of ten finalists for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award. Koch is averaging 11.8 points and 4.9 rebounds this season.

Eglseider claimed second-team All-MVC honors for the 2009-10 season and was named to the All-Tournament Team at the State Farm MVC Tournament. He has averaged 12.0 points and 7.3 rebounds per game so far this season.

JACOBSON NAMED FINALIST FOR PAIR OF COACH OF THE YEAR AWARDS

University of Northern Iowa head men's basketball coach Ben Jacobson has been named as a finalist for the 2010 Jim Phelan National Coach of the Year Award as well as a finalist for the 2010 Hugh Durham Mid-Major Coach of the Year Award.

JACOBSON NAMED DISTRICT 16 NABC COACH OF THE YEAR

UNI head coach Ben Jacobson has been named the District 16 Coach of the Year by the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC). There are a total of 24 districts nationwide, and the award winners were voted on by the member coaches of the NABC.

AHELEGBE NAMED MOST OUTSTANDING PLAYER OF MVC TOURNAMENT

Junior point guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe was named the MVC Tournament's Most Outstanding Player after posting a 24-point effort in the title game.

Against the Shockers, Ahelegbe drained 5-of-10 shots from the field and 12-of-14 free throws. He knocked in two 3-pointers and grabbed five rebounds in the 67-52 victory over WSU.

3 • UNI MEN'S BASKETBALL

HEAD COACH BEN JACOBSON

Univ. of North Dakota '94

4th Year at UNI

Overall Record: 85-42



Missouri Valley Conference co-regular season and tournament champions ... NCAA Tournament participant ... 23 wins to tie the school record ... MVC Coach of the Year.

These are just a few of the accolades that University of Northern Iowa head coach Ben Jacobson was able to accrue during the Panthers' run in the 2008-09 season.

Last season began with the Panthers being pegged for a sixth-place finish in the MVC pre-season poll, but ended with the school's fifth appearance in the NCAA Tournament. Jacobson was named the MVC Coach of the Year after guiding the Panthers to a 14-4 league record and a share of the regular season title. UNI proceeded to win the MVC Tournament with three wins in three days including an overtime thriller in the title game against Illinois State.

The Panthers made their mark in 2008-09 on the road as the squad put up an impressive 11-1 mark on the road against league foes. Included in that impressive road mark was a streak of eight straight victories away from the McLeod Center, which was the eighth-longest road winning streak in the history of the Missouri Valley Conference.

Jacobson-coached squads have made defense a priority and none more prevalent than last year's team, which was named the league's Army National Guard Defensive Team of the Year. The Panthers held the competition to 63.5 points per game and 41.9 percent field goal shooting in 2008-09.

Jacobson has certainly put his mark on the program in his three seasons as the Panthers' head coach. Over the past three years, Jacobson has achieved more wins (59) than any coach in his first three seasons at UNI's helm.

Jacobson, 38, was hired as head men's basketball coach on March 22, 2006, becoming the 21st head coach in UNI history, and since then, has kept the Panthers in the upper half of the rugged Missouri Valley Conference.

Last season marked the sixth straight season that the Panthers have posted an upper-division finish during the MVC's regular-season. Prior to that streak starting in 2003-04 (when UNI tied for second and won the MVC Tournament), UNI had only finished in the top half of the league standings twice since joining the conference in 1991.

A native of Mayville, N.D., Jacobson graduated from Mayville-Portland High School in 1989 as valedictorian. He received his bachelor's degree in physical education from the University of North Dakota in 1994.

Jacobson and his wife, Dawn, have two children, Hunter (6) and Tanner (4).

**Associated Press Top 25
(March 8)**

Rk.	Team (First)	Record	Pts.
1	Kansas (63)	29-2	1,623
2	Kentucky (2)	29-2	1,553
3	Syracuse	28-3	1,500
4	Duke	26-5	1,348
5	Ohio State	24-7	1,344
6	Purdue	26-4	1,252
7	West Virginia	24-6	1,231
8	New Mexico	28-3	1,188
9	Kansas State	24-6	1,063
10	Villanova	24-6	1,016
11	Michigan State	24-7	1,015
12	Butler	27-4	796
13	Wisconsin	23-7	710
14	Brigham Young	28-4	690
15	Tennessee	23-7	650
16	Pittsburgh	24-7	644
17	Temple	26-5	552
18	Gonzaga	26-5	534
19	Maryland	23-7	499
20	Vanderbilt	23-7	480
21	Baylor	24-6	474
22	Georgetown	20-9	277
23	Texas A&M	22-8	271
24	Xavier	23-7	136
25	UTEP	24-5	134

Others Receiving Votes: Northern Iowa 48, Richmond 41, Utah State 12, Virginia Tech 12, Texas 10, Notre Dame 6, Marquette 6, Cornell 3, Louisville 3, California 2, Oklahoma State 1, Siena 1.

**ESPN/USA Today Top 25
(March 8)**

Rk.	Team (First)	Record	Pts.
1	Kansas (30)	29-2	774
2	Kentucky	29-2	740
3	Syracuse (1)	28-3	709
4	Duke	26-5	661
5	Purdue	26-4	625
6	West Virginia	24-6	610
7	Ohio State	24-7	604
8	New Mexico	28-3	526
9	Kansas State	24-6	501
10	Villanova	24-6	476
11	Michigan State	24-7	463
12	Butler	27-4	461
13	Tennessee	23-7	387
14	Gonzaga	26-5	347
15	Brigham Young	28-4	324
16	Pittsburgh	24-7	295
17	Temple	26-5	282
18	Wisconsin	23-7	273
19	Maryland	23-7	210
20	Baylor	24-6	167
21	UTEP	24-5	153
22	Georgetown	20-9	125
23	Vanderbilt	23-7	117
24	Texas A&M	22-8	103
25	UNI	28-4	54

Others Receiving Votes: Utah State 24, Xavier 24, Cornell 10, Texas 7, Saint Mary's 6, Richmond 5, California 4, UNLV 2, Oklahoma State 2, Virginia Tech 2, Old Dominion 1, Memphis 1

Over the three games in St. Louis, Ahelegbe averaged a team-best 12.0 points per game and made 15-of-18 free throws.

BIG CONTRIBUTIONS FROM UNI FRESHMAN AT MVC TOURNAMENT

The three freshman reserves on the UNI Panther bench made significant contributions throughout the 2010 State Farm Missouri Valley Conference tourney.

Redshirt Freshman Jake Koch put on quite a show in the title game as he knocked in a career-high three 3-pointers and tallied 13 points on 5-of-7 shooting. This effort came after playing 27 minutes in the previous two games with zero shot attempts from the field.

Freshman Marc Sonnen pumped in 10 points in the Panthers' semifinal win over Bradley, 57-40. Sonnen tied for team-high scoring honors in only 18 minutes of action as he knocked in 4-of-8 shots from the field, including a pair of 3-pointers.

Redshirt freshman Anthony James came off the bench to contribute eight points in nine minutes of action in UNI's 57-40 win over Bradley in the MVC semis. James drained both 3-point attempts against the Braves. Then in the championship game, James scored five points as he sank 2-of-3 shots from the field and helped UNI to the title with a 67-52 win over Wichita State.

MVC TOURNEY BEST ON DEFENSE

UNI set an MVCTournament record by holding its three opponents to 44.0 points per game in winning the title. The previous best defensive mark came in 2006 when Southern Illinois held its three opponents to 49.0 points per contest.

This is the first time that UNI has held consecutive opponents to 40 points or less since the 1950-51 season (UNI defeated Augustana, 56-39, and North Dakota State, 45-40).

UNI held both Drake and Bradley to 40 points in the quarterfinals and semifinals of the MVC Tournament.

SCORELESS STRETCHES IN MVC TOURNAMENT

UNI did not allow a field goal in the final 7:59 of the first half vs. Drake. In fact, UNI did not allow Drake to make a field goal from the 7:59 mark of the first half until the 7:00 mark of the second half in the teams' quarterfinal matchup of the 2010 State Farm Missouri Valley Conference Tournament.

The Panthers began the 20:59 scoreless stretch against Drake trailing by a count of 24-13. Before the Bulldogs scored another field goal, UNI had tallied a 33-3 run to take a 46-27 advantage.

The Panthers held Bradley without a field goal the final 7:04 of the first half on in the MVC semifinals.

In the MVC title game, UNI held Wichita State without a field goal from the 16:24 mark of the second half until only 4:14 remained in the game. During that stretch of zero field goals for WSU, the Panthers outscored the Shockers 23-3.

PANTHERS IN 4TH MVC TITLE GAME

UNI is now 3-1 all-time in MVC title games. Prior to this year, the Panthers advanced to the MVC title game in 1994, 2004, 2009.

Each of UNI's two previous championship game wins were overtime victories. UNI beat Illinois State 60-57 last year and Missouri State 79-74 in double-OT in 2004.

UNI lost the 1994 title game to Southern Illinois, 77-74.

UNI Results in MVC Championship

1994	vs. Southern Illinois	L, 77-74
2004	vs. Missouri State	W, 79-74 (2OT)
2009	vs. Illinois State	W, 60-57 (OT)
2010	vs. Wichita State	W, 67-52

COACH JAKE AMONG THE MVC'S BEST ALL-TIME IN TOURNEY ACTION

Ben Jacobson's .778 winning percentage (7-2) at the State Farm MVC Tournament

Statistical Matchup

	UNI	UNLV
Record:	28-4	25-8
Scoring Offense:	63.3	73.3
Scoring Defense:	54.3	63.6
Scoring Margin:	+9.0	+9.7
FG Percentage:	.431	.462
FG Percentage Defense:	.403	.398
3-Pt. FG Percentage:	.353	.330
3-Pt. FG % Defense:	.332	.327
3-Pt. FG Made Per Game:	6.6	6.7
FT Percentage:	.754	.718
Rebounding Offense:	32.5	34.0
Rebounding Defense:	29.5	34.5
Rebounding Margin:	+3.0	-0.5
Assists:	10.7	16.3
Turnovers:	10.5	11.7
Steals:	5.5	7.8
Blocked Shots:	2.0	3.5
Turnover Margin:	+1.7	+4.0
Assist/TO Ratio:	1.0	1.4
When UNIThen UNI is		
Shoots a Higher Percentage:.....	19-1	
Shoots a Lower Percentage:.....	9-3	
Shoots the Same:.....	0-0	
Makes More Field Goals:.....	18-0	
Makes Fewer Field Goals:.....	6-4	
Makes the Same Number:.....	4-0	
Makes More Threes:.....	14-3	
Makes Fewer Threes:.....	12-1	
Makes the Same Number:.....	2-0	
Makes More Free Throws:.....	23-1	
Makes Fewer Free Throws:.....	5-3	
Makes the Same Number:.....	0-0	
Outrebounds Its Opponent:.....	21-2	
Is Outrebounded:.....	7-2	
Ties in Rebounding:.....	0-0	
Leads at the Half:.....	19-3	
Trails at the Half:.....	7-1	
Is Tied at the Half:.....	2-0	
Plays in Overtime:.....	0-0	
Scores Less Than 60 Points:.....	9-4	
Scores Between 60-69 Points:.....	12-0	
Scores Between 70-79 Points:.....	4-0	
Scores Between 80-89 Points:.....	3-0	
Scores 90 or More Points:.....	0-0	
Allows Less Than 60 Points:.....	23-1	
Allows Between 60-69 Points:.....	4-3	
Allows Between 70-79 Points:.....	1-0	
Allows Between 80-89 Points:.....	0-0	
Allows 90 or More Points:.....	0-0	
Game is Decided By 1-3 Points:.....	5-1	
Game is Decided by 4-6 Points:.....	3-0	
Game is Decided by 7-10 Points:.....	6-3	
Game is Decided by 11-14 Points:.....	2-0	
Game is Decided by 15+ Points:.....	12-0	
On Monday:.....	1-0	
On Tuesday:.....	4-2	
On Wednesday:.....	6-0	
On Thursday:.....	0-0	
On Friday:.....	4-1	
On Saturday:.....	10-1	
On Sunday:.....	3-0	

ranks third-best in MVC history among coaches who have six or more games under their belt. Only Charlie Spoonhour (5-1, .833) and Nolan Richardson (11-3, .786) are better.

JAKE EQUALS DANA ALTMAN, NOLAN RICHARDSON

Ben Jacobson equaled a pair of coaching records in leading UNI to the 67-52 MVC tournament title over Wichita State. Jacobson moved to 2-0 in title games appearances - equaling the mark set by Dana Altman in 1999 and 2000 as the only two coaches to win MVC tournament titles in their first two appearances in the championship game.

Jake also became just the second coach in league history to win two tournament titles in his first four seasons as a coach. Tulsa's Nolan Richardson also accomplished the feat with crowns in 1982 and 1984.

UNI MATCHES REDBIRDS FROM '97 & '98

UNI has won back-to-back MVC Tournament titles as the No. 1 seed and that matches the Illinois State Redbirds who also accomplished the feat in 1997 and 1998.

IF ITS TIGHT, PANTHERS HAVE AN EDGE

This season UNI is 5-1 in games decided by four points or less, and 12-3 in the past two seasons in games decided by four or less.

NIFTY MARK UNDER COACH JAKE

UNI has a 12-6 record (with three titles) at the MVC Tournament since Ben Jacobson arrived on staff in 2001-02. Prior to that, UNI owned a 4-9 mark all-time (with no titles) at the Valley Tournament.

COMFORTABLE MARGIN IN FIRST TWO GAMES

UNI won all three games of the 2010 MVC Tournament by 15 or more points. The 1988 Bradley team is the only other team to win all three MVC Tournament games by 15 or more points. The 1988 Bradley team featured future NBA player Hersey Hawkins and current Braves head coach Jim Les.

PANTHERS ADD TO VALLEY STREAK

The MVC's top seed has made the NCAA's every year since 1993.

COMFORTABLE MARGINS FOR THE PANTHERS

UNI is 14-0 this year in games decided by 10 or more points, and has won 21 straight games decided by double-figures.

UNI BECOMES 4TH BACK-TO-BACK MVC TOURNEY TITLE WINNER

UNI became just the fourth different program to win consecutive MVC Tournament titles (2009, 2010). Creighton did it twice (2002 and 2003 as well as 1999 and 2000), while Illinois State (1997 and 1998) and Southern Illinois (1993, 1994 and 1995) have each done that once.

PLENTY OF PANTHER ACCOLADES

For the second consecutive season the UNI Panthers were the regular season champions of the Missouri Valley Conference. And for the second consecutive season, the accolades are rolling in.

UNI senior forward Adam Koch became only the third player in Valley history to be named both the Larry Bird Player of the Year and the Scholar-Athlete of the Year (2007 Jamaal Tatum and 2008 Adam Emmenecker).

UNI head coach Ben Jacobson was named the MVC Coach of the Year for the second straight season - joining George Smith (1958, 1959 at Cincinnati), Maury John (1968, 1969, 1970 at Drake), Tubby Smith (1994, 1995 at Tulsa) and Dana Altman (2001, 2002 at Creighton) as the only back-to-back winners of the award.

2009-10 MVC AWARD WINNERS

Larry Bird Player of the Year: Adam Koch, UNI
MVC Scholar-Athlete of the Year: Adam Koch, UNI
Newcomer of the Year: Adam Leonard, MSU
Freshman of the Year: Colt Ryan, Evansville
Defensive MVP: Dinma Odiakosa, Illinois State
Sixth-Man of the Year: Lucas O'Rear, UNI
Coach of the Year: Ben Jacobson, UNI
Army National Guard Defensive Team: UNI

First Team All-MVC

Adam Koch	F	Sr.	UNI
Osiris Eldridge	G	Sr.	Illinois State
Clevin Hannah	G	Sr.	Wichita State
Dinma Odiakosa	C	Sr.	Illinois State
Josh Young	G	Sr.	Drake

Second Team All-MVC

Jordan Eglseider	C	Sr.	UNI
Kenny Lawson Jr.	C	Jr.	Creighton
Sam Maniscalco	G	Jr.	Bradley
Harry Marshall	G	Sr.	Indiana State
Kyle Weems	F	So.	Missouri State

Honorable Mention All-MVC

Kwadzo Ahelegbe	G	Jr.	UNI
Ali Farokhmanesh	G	Sr.	UNI
Toure' Murry	G	So.	Wichita State
Adam Templeton	F	Sr.	Drake
Andrew Warren	G	Jr.	Bradley

All-Newcomer Team

Gabe Blair	F	Jr.	Wichita State
Tony Freeman	G	Sr.	Southern Illinois
Adam Leonard	G	Jr.	Missouri State
Jermaine Mallett	G	Jr.	Missouri State
Colt Ryan	G	Fr.	Evansville
Ryan Wedel	G	Jr.	Drake

All-Freshman Team

Jackie Carmichael	F	Fr.	Illinois State
Colt Ryan	G	Fr.	Evansville
Gene Teague	C	Fr.	Southern Illinois
Seth VanDeest	C	Fr.	Drake
Ethan Wragge	F	Fr.	Creighton

All-Defensive Team

Kwadzo Ahelegbe	G	Jr.	UNI
Adam Koch	F	Sr.	UNI
Osiris Eldridge	G	Sr.	Illinois State
Kenny Lawson Jr.	C	Jr.	Creighton
Harry Marshall	G	Sr.	Indiana State
Toure' Murry	G	So.	Wichita State
Dinma Odiakosa	F	Sr.	Illinois State

Scholar-Athlete First Team

Adam Koch	F	Sr.	UNI
Will Creekmore	F	Jr.	Missouri State
Graham Hatch	G	Jr.	Wichita State
Sam Maniscalco	G	Jr.	Bradley
Adam Templeton	F	Sr.	Drake

Scholar-Athlete Honorable Mention

Kerwin Dunham	G	Jr.	UNI
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Koch earned first-team all-MVC status, while senior center Jordan Eglseider tallied second-team honors. Senior guard Ali Farokhmanesh and junior guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe notched honorable mention status.

Junior forward Lucas O'Rear became the first time back-to-back winner of the league's Sixth Man of the Year Award.

Koch notched first-team Scholar-Athlete status, while junior guard Kerwin Dunham was named to the honorable mention Scholar-Athlete squad.

Koch and Ahelegbe were also named to the MVC All-Defensive squad.

UNI was named the Army National Guard Defensive Team of the Year for the second straight season.

UNI ALL-TIME IN MVC TOURNAMENT

UNI has posted a record of 16-15 all-time in the MVC Tournament. The Panthers are over .500 for the first time ever in league history.

Under head coach Ben Jacobson, UNI has posted a mark of 7-2 in the MVC Tournament.

ADAM KOCH SETS UNI GAMES PLAYED RECORD

UNI senior forward Adam Koch has set the UNI career record for games played with 129 appearances. Eric Coleman (2005-2008) held the previous record with 128 games played.

PERFECT HOME SEASON

UNI completed its first perfect home season since the 1963-64 season and also tied the school record for home wins in a season.

UNI finished this season with an unblemished 14-0 record. UNI posted an 11-0 home record in 1963-64. The 1988-89 UNI Panther squad posted a 14-1 home record in the UNI-Dome.

9TH-BEST HOME WIN STREAK IN THE NATION

The Panthers have won 15 straight games in the McLeod Center and finished with a perfect 14-0 record at home this season. The 15-game win streak ranks as the nation's ninth-best current home win streak.

The Panthers won 17 in a row from 1962-65 to set the school record for consecutive home wins. UNI won its final four home games of the 1962-63 season, followed that up with an 11-0 home record in 1963-64 and then won its first two home games of the 1964-65 season to set the mark at 17 in a row.

ROAD WARRIORS

UNI has posted a mark of 14-4 in road MVC games the past two seasons. UNI is 6-3 in Valley play this year on the road after posting an 8-1 record on the road in 2008-09.

UNI is 9-3 in road games this season. UNI is 14-4 in road-neutral games in 2009-10.

TYING THE ROAD STANDARD

UNI's nine road wins tied a school record for road victories in a season set in 1963-64. The 1963-64 team posted a road mark of 9-2 overall. This year's Panther squad is 9-3 in road games and 14-4 in road-neutral contests.

FIRST OUTRIGHT MVC REGULAR SEASON TITLE IN SCHOOL HISTORY

UNI secured the program's first-ever outright regular season Missouri Valley Conference title with a 70-52 victory over the visiting Creighton Bluejays.

The Panthers shared the crown last year with Creighton as both teams finished the 2008-09 season with identical 14-4 league records.

UNI is the first league school to repeat as regular season conference champions since Southern Illinois took four in a row from 2001-02 through 2004-05.

SCHOOL RECORD FOR WINS IN A SEASON

UNI set the school record for wins in a single season with its 24th victory of

the year against Old Dominion. The previous record of 23 had been set in 1963-64, 1989-90, 2005-06 and 2008-09.

7TH 20-WIN SEASON IN SCHOOL HISTORY
UNI has reached the 20-win plateau for the seventh time in school history.

PANTHERS EARN BEST MARK EVER IN VALLEY PLAY

UNI's 15-3 record in Missouri Valley Conference play is the best in school history. The previous best came last season when UNI went 14-4 in league play.

The Panthers have posted a league record of 29-7 over the past two seasons. That number jumps to 35-7 if you included the MVC Tournament records as well.

LOCK-DOWN DEFENSE

UNI is ranked No. 2 in the nation in scoring defense. The Panthers are giving up 54.3 points per game this season.

The Panthers held 14 of its 18 MVC opponents to 56 points or less this season. UNI gave up 53.7 points per game in league action.

PANTHERS LIMIT THEIR TURNOVERS, FOULS; BUT DRAIN PLENTY OF FREE THROWS

UNI ranks No. 9 in the nation in fewest turnovers per game (10.5). Wisconsin leads the nation at 9.0 turnovers per game.

UNI ranks No. 11 in the nation in free throw percentage (75.4 percent). BYU leads the nation at 77.9 percent.

The Panthers rank No. 26 in the nation in fewest fouls per game (16.0). Siena leads the nation at 13.7 fouls per game.

NEARLY AUTOMATIC AT THE LINE IN MVC PLAY

UNI made a league-best 81.0 percent of its free throws in Missouri Valley Conference play. The Panthers made 256-of-316 league play. In fact, UNI made more free throws (256) in MVC play than its opponents attempted (254).

Johnny Moran made 25-of-28 (89.3 percent), Jake Koch made 15-of-17 (88.2 percent), Adam Koch made 79-of-90 (87.8 percent), Kerwin Dunham made 16-of-19 (84.2 percent), Ali Farokhmanesh made 21-of-24 (87.5 percent), and Jordan Eglseider knocked in 36-of-46 (78.6 percent).

UNI is shooting 75.4 percent from the line through all 32 games.

IN THE CLUTCH

In the final five minutes of games, Jordan Eglseider is making 83.3 percent of his shots from the field (15-of-18).

Adam Koch is the Panthers' top free throw shooter in the final five minutes as he has drained 91.7 percent at the charity stripe (33-of-36).

Adam Koch is the Panthers' top rebounder in the final five minutes with 21 caroms each.

Kerwin Dunham has tallied a team-high seven assists in the final five minutes of games.

Kwadzo Ahelegbe has scored 70 points in the final five minutes to lead the team. Ali Farokhmanesh has scored 64 points in the final five minutes, while Adam Koch has scored 55 points in the same time period.

PANTHERS' TOP 7 SCORERS HAVE PLENTY OF EXPERIENCE

UNI's top seven scorers – Adam Koch (129 games), Jordan Eglseider (115), Kerwin Dunham (98), Kwadzo Ahelegbe (96), Lucas O'Rear (93), Ali Farokhmanesh (66) and Johnny Moran (64) – have played in a combined 661 career games heading into the NCAA Tournament.

Those seven players have also accumulated 369 career starts for the Panthers.

SAME STARTERS VIRTUALLY EVERY TIME OUT

When it comes to experience in the starting five, it's tough to beat the UNI Panthers. Adam Koch, Kwadzo Ahelegbe and Ali Farokhmanesh have been in the starting lineup for 66 straight games.

Adam Koch has started 98 consecutive games. Ahelegbe has started 70 straight games. Farokhmanesh has started all 66 games he has played at UNI.

DON'T OVERLOOK THE BENCH

The UNI Panthers have received a lot of attention for their starting five, but a major reason for the 28-4 record can be attributed to the Panther bench.

The Panther bench was huge in the MVC Tournament final against Wichita State. The UNI bench outscored the WSU bench, 25-10.

UNI's bench came up big against Wichita State (Feb. 3) by helping to secure 18 of the Panthers' 35 rebounds vs. the Shockers. Lucas O'Rear grabbed nine rebounds, while Jake Koch snared a career-high eight boards in the victory.

The Jan. 30 Missouri State game show-

cased the Panthers' bench again as UNI tallied 20 bench points in the one-point victory over the Bears. Freshman Marc Sonnen tallied nine points, O'Rear chipped in with six points and Jake Koch knocked in five points.

Kerwin Dunham, who started for an injured Johnny Moran but normally comes off the bench, scored the game-winning layup with 41.6 seconds left against the Bears.

On the season, the UNI bench has provided 14.5 points per game and 12.5 rebounds per contest.

THE UNDER 50 CLUB

When the UNI Panthers held the Bradley Braves to 40 points in the MVC semifinals, it marked the ninth time this season that UNI had held an opponent to less than 50 points. It marked the 17th time in the Ben Jacobson head coaching era that the Panthers had held a team under 50 points. UNI is 16-1 in those contests.

OPPONENTS HELD UNDER 50 PTS IN JACOBSON COACHING ERA

Date	Opponent	Results
12/12/06	at Bucknell	W, 57-48
11/9/07	vs. Northern Illinois	W, 75-45
11/27/07	at Iowa State	W, 61-48
12/15/07	vs. Wartburg	W, 99-48
12/29/07	at Bradley	W, 59-46
3/7/08	vs. Southern Illinois (MVC Tournament)	W, 54-49
12/6/08	vs. North Dakota	W, 69-49
2/18/09	vs. Drake	L, 47-46
11/28/09	vs. Northern Illinois	W, 52-45
12/19/09	at North Dakota	W, 64-41
1/1/10	vs. Evansville	W, 65-46
1/6/10	at Southern Illinois	W, 61-49
1/9/10	at Illinois State	W, 59-44
1/16/10	vs. Indiana State	W, 62-40
2/10/10	at Drake	W, 57-48
3/5/10	vs. Drake (MVC Tournament)	W, 55-40
3/6/10	vs. Bradley (MVC Tournament)	W, 57-40

KOCH, EGLSEIDER SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN PORTSMOUTH INVITE

University of Northern Iowa seniors Jordan Eglseider and Adam Koch have been invited to participate in the 2010 Portsmouth Invitational Tournament. The 58th annual P.I.T. is slated for April 7-10 in Portsmouth, Va.

Each year for 57 years the P.I.T. has invited 64 of the best college basketball players (seniors) from across the nation to participate in a four-day, 12-game tour-

nament in front of representatives from every NBA team. The tournament drew the attention of NBA scouts and general managers in the mid-70s when players like Dave Cowens, John Lucas, Walt Szczerbiak and Bobby Cremins came to Portsmouth to play.

Soon the word spread and approximately 200 scouts, general managers and representatives of all 30 NBA teams began to come to see players like John Stockton, Dennis Rodman, Tim Hardaway, Scottie Pippen and others. Today scouts from numerous international leagues have joined in on the annual April pilgrimage to Portsmouth.

Over the years the P.I.T. has been a showcase for five of the 50 greatest players in NBA history (Rick Barry, Earl "The Pearl" Monroe, Dave Cowens, John Stockton and Scottie Pippen) and for many others who have gone on to NBA stardom.

UNI IN THE NATIONAL POLLS

UNI entered the MVC Tournament unranked for the first time in seven weeks. But after winning the conference tournament title, UNI is back in the ESPN/USA Today Coaches poll at No. 25.

UNI is the top team receiving votes in the March 8 Associated Press poll.

In its history, UNI has been ranked on 10 occasions with seven of those occurring this year. UNI was ranked three times in the 2005-06 season with a high of No. 24 in the Jan. 30, 2006, USA Today Coaches' Poll.

The Feb. 8, 2010, polls saw UNI ranked No. 18 in the coaches' poll and No. 19 in the Associated Press poll - the highest rankings for the Panthers in either poll.

UNI IN NATIONAL RANKINGS

Date of Poll	Coaches	AP
Jan. 30, 2006	24	25
Feb. 6, 2006	RV	25
Feb. 20, 2006	RV	25
Jan. 18, 2010	22	20
Jan. 25, 2010	25	RV
Feb. 1, 2010	22	24
Feb. 8, 2010	18	19
Feb. 15, 2010	24	RV
Feb. 22, 2010	22	25
March 1, 2010	RV	RV
March 8, 2010	25	RV

PANTHERS RANKED #18 IN RPI

The UNI Panthers were ranked No. 18 in the latest NCAA Ratings Percentage Index (RPI) released on Mon., March 8.

PANTHERS HONOR FIVE SENIORS

UNI honored its five seniors prior to the Illinois State game on Feb. 27. UNI's senior class includes center Jordan Eglseder (Bellevue, Iowa), guard Ali Farokhmanesh (Iowa City, Iowa), guard Brian Haak (Spencer, Iowa), forward Adam Koch (Ashwaubenon, Wis.) and forward Adam Rodenberg (Garnavillo, Iowa).

The Panther senior class has compiled a home record of 46-15 over the past four seasons.

PANTHERS SET MCLEOD ATTENDANCE MARK IN WIN OVER ILLINOIS STATE

The UNI-Illinois State game on Feb. 27 was the highest attended game in the McLeod Center's history.

The Panthers and Redbirds drew 7,332 fans to see UNI tally a 61-55 victory. The listed capacity for the McLeod Center is 6,650.

Listed below are the top-15 crowds in the McLeod Center's history:

7,332	Illinois State	2/27/10
7,293	Drake	2/16/08
7,043	Iowa	12/5/07
7,031	Old Dominion	2/19/10
6,929	Indiana State	1/20/07
6,877	Creighton	1/12/07
6,839	Southern Illinois	2/6/10
6,778	Indiana State	1/16/10
6,731	Southern Illinois	1/6/07
6,723	Wichita State	2/3/10
6,616	Missouri State	2/10/07
6,511	Bradley	12/27/06
6,480	Iowa	12/8/09
6,234	Creighton	2/8/09
6,190	Evansville	2/28/09

JAKE KOCH'S SCORING EXPLOSION VS. EVANSVILLE

Redshirt freshman Jake Koch had a career night on Tuesday against the Evansville Purple Aces. Koch scored game-highs in points (22) and rebounds (10). It was the first double-double of his career.

Going into the game against the Purple Aces, Koch had career highs of six points and eight rebounds.

O'REAR STEPS INTO STARTING LINEUP

UNI junior forward Lucas O'Rear made the second and third starts of his collegiate career against Creighton and Old Dominion.

O'Rear has played in 90 career games for the Panthers and has now made four career starts. UNI is 3-1 all-time when O'Rear is in the starting lineup.

O'Rear set a career-high with three steals, while scoring seven points and grabbing six rebounds in a 71-62 win over Old Dominion. In Tuesday's 70-52 win over Creighton and he tallied five rebounds to go along with four points.

In O'Rear's first start of his career - a 59-55 win over Illinois State in the McLeod Center on Jan. 28, 2009 - he played 34 minutes, scored 10 points and grabbed eight rebounds.

He is the two-time reigning Sixth Man of the Year in the MVC. So far this season, O'Rear is averaging 4.3 points per game to go along with 4.5 rebounds per contest.

RODIE CONTRIBUTES OFF THE BENCH

Adam Rodenberg had played in nine games and seen 24 minutes of action prior to the Panthers' game against Creighton and Old Dominion. Against Creighton and Old Dominion, he tallied 22 minutes of action.

Rodenberg set a season-high for points against Old Dominion by making all three shots he took from the field and grabbed three rebounds in 10 minutes of action.

Rodenberg contributed 22 minutes in games against Creighton and Old Dominion. Rodenberg saw 12 minutes of action in Tuesday's 70-52 win over Creighton.

FAROKHMANESH NAMED MVC PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Ali Farokhmanesh was named the Missouri Valley Conference's Player of the Week on Feb. 22 for his role in two Panther victories.

Farokhmanesh averaged 20.0 points per game and led UNI to a pair of victories over Creighton (70-52) and Old Dominion (71-62). Ali buried five three-pointers in each contest and shot 52.6 percent from beyond the 3-point arc for the week. Over the two-game stretch, Farokhmanesh made 11-of-20 shots (55.0 percent) from the field.

Against Creighton, Farokhmanesh tied for team-high scoring honors with 17 points on 5-of-10 shooting from the floor. He also knocked in both of his free throw attempts against the Bluejays.

On Friday against ODU, Farokhmanesh set a career-high with 23 points - all of which came in the second half. Farokhmanesh made 6-of-10 shots from the field against the Monarchs, including 5-of-9 from beyond the arc. He hit 5-of-7 from 3-point land in the second half vs. ODU and also tied a season-high by making all six free throws he attempted.

GETTING OFFENSIVE

UNI posted back-to-back 70-plus point scoring performances for the first time since the Panthers were playing in the Paradise Jam in the Virgin Islands (74 vs. East Carolina and 81 vs. Boston College).

UNI scored a 70-52 win over Creighton on Feb. 16 and followed it up with a 71-62 victory over Old Dominion on Feb. 19.

Prior to the Panthers' 70-point total against Creighton, UNI had not reached the 70-point plateau since an 84-76 win over Missouri State on Jan. 3.

NON-CONFERENCE SUCCESS

The Panthers posted a 10-1 mark in non-conference play this season.

UNI wrapped up non-conference regular season play Feb. 19 with a 71-62 win over Old Dominion in a BracketBusters matchup.

UNI's non-conference wins this season included triumphs over Denver, East Carolina, Boston College, Northern Illinois, Iowa State, Iowa, Siena, North Dakota, Wyoming and Old Dominion.

PANTHERS IMPROVE TO 5-3 IN BRACKETBUSTERS GAMES

UNI improved to 5-3 all-time in BracketBusters games with a 71-62 win over Old Dominion last Friday in the McLeod Center.

UNI in BracketBuster Games (5-3)

2003 - UNI 76, @Louisiana Tech 71 -- (TV)
2004 - UNI 82, @Wis.-Green Bay 75
2005 - @UNI 86, W. Michigan 75 -- (TV)
2006 - @UNI 65, Bucknell 61 (2OT) -- (TV)
2007 - Nevada 79, @UNI 64 -- (TV)
2008 - Illinois-Chicago 70, @UNI 58
2009 - @Siena 81, UNI 75 -- (TV)
2010 - @UNI 71, Old Dominion 62 -- (TV)

UNI in BracketBuster Return Games (5-2)

2003-04 - @UNI 75, Louisiana Tech 72
2004-05 - @UNI 76, Wis.-Green Bay 65
2005-06 - UNI 69, @Western Michigan 63
2006-07 - UNI 57, @Bucknell 48
2007-08 - @Nevada 55, UNI 52
2008-09 - @Illinois-Chicago 84, UNI 77
2009-10 - @UNI 82, Siena 65

ALI, JOHNNY LEAD 3-POINT BARRAGE VS. CREIGHTON

Senior Ali Farokhmanesh and sophomore Johnny Moran led a 3-point barrage against Creighton and helped the Panthers to a 70-52 win over the Bluejays. Farokhmanesh buried five triples, while Moran knocked in

9 • UNI MEN'S BASKETBALL

three of his own as both guards set season-highs in scoring with 17 points apiece.

UNI drained 13 3-pointers in the MVC-clinching win against Creighton.

RARE SEASON SWEEP OF CREIGHTON

UNI completed a season sweep of Creighton for the only the third time since joining the Missouri Valley Conference in 1991-92.

The Panthers notched season sweeps against the Bluejays previously in 1993-94 and 1995-96.

ALI'S LATE 3'S CARRY UNI PAST DRAKE, 57-48

Senior guard Ali Farokhmanesh's pair of three-pointers with the shot clock winding down in the final five minutes propelled UNI to a 57-48 win over Drake in the Knapp Center.

Farokhmanesh buried a 26-footer to push UNI's lead to 50-45 with 4:24 left, and followed with a 29-footer with 2:51 left that took the air out of Drake's second sellout crowd of the season.

KOCH'S LATE RUN PUSHES UNI PAST SIU, 55-52

Senior forward Adam Koch single-handedly carried the Panthers to a 55-52 win over Southern Illinois with a game-high 21 points.

With the Panthers trailing 47-42 with 3:11 left, Koch put the Panthers on his back and went on an 11-2 run of his own to give UNI a 53-49 lead with 22.5 seconds left. Koch hit two free throws with 3:11 left, then knocked down a 3-pointer with 2:27 left, before hitting a finger roll in the lane to knot the score at 49-49 with 1:44 remaining.

Koch stole an in-bounds pass with 1:17 left in the game and then drained two free throws with 54.1 seconds left to give the Panthers the lead at 51-49. Koch then rebounded a missed three-pointer by SIU's Kevin Dillard and was fouled after which he made his final two free throws of the 11-2 run.

Koch was credited with a career-high four steals in the win vs. the Salukis.

KWADZO CARRIES PANTHERS PAST SHOCKERS, 59-56

Junior point guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe picked up the Panthers in the second half of the Feb. 3 matchup with Wichita State and carried UNI to a 59-56 victory.

Ahelegbe had made 1-of-9 shots from the field and had just missed a pair of free

throws with the Panthers trailing 38-36 with 11:17 remaining in the game. From that point on, Ahelegbe took over.

He scored UNI's next eight points to give the Panthers a 44-41 lead with 8:29 left in the game. Ahelegbe then hit back-to-back shots on possessions to give UNI a 53-46 lead with 4:00 remaining. He scored his final bucket of the game with 2:08, which capped a 15-point second half and an 18-point game overall.

KOCH NAMED FINALIST FOR LOWE'S SENIOR CLASS AWARD

University of Northern Iowa senior Adam Koch (Ashwaubenon, Wis.) has been named one of 10 male finalists for the 2009-10 Lowe's Senior CLASS Award.

Twenty NCAA® men's and women's basketball student-athletes who excel both on and off the court were tabbed as finalists for the 2009-10 Lowe's Senior CLASS Award in the two basketball divisions.

To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must be classified as an NCAA Division I senior and have notable achievements in four areas of excellence - classroom, character, community and competition.

An acronym for Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School, the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award focuses on the total student-athlete and encourages students to use their platform in athletics to make a positive impact as leaders in their communities. The finalists were chosen by a media committee from the list of 30 men's candidates and 30 women's candidates who were announced in October.

Nationwide balloting begins immediately to determine the winner. Lowe's, an official Corporate Partner of the NCAA, will announce the Senior CLASS Award winners during the 2010 NCAA Men's and Women's Final Fours in early April.

The 2009-10 men's finalists are: Matt Bouldin, Gonzaga University; Da'Sean Butler, West Virginia University; Marquis Hall, Lehigh University; Luke Harangody, University of Notre Dame; Damion James, University of Texas at Austin; Adam Koch, University of Northern Iowa; Chris Kramer, Purdue University; Raymar Morgan, Michigan State University; Jon Scheyer, Duke University; and Josh Young, Drake University.

The women's finalists for 2009-10 are: Jayne Appel, Stanford University; Amy Beggin, University of New Mexico; Joy Cheek, Duke University; Alysha Clark, Middle Tennessee State University; Tyra

Grant, Pennsylvania State University; Kelsey Griffin, University of Nebraska, Lincoln; Allison Hightower, Louisiana State University; Ashley Houts, University of Georgia; Ashley Sweat, Kansas State University; and Bianca Thomas, University of Mississippi.

These 20 names will be placed on the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award basketball ballot for a nationwide vote beginning today and concluding March 22. Fan balloting will be available on the award's official Web site, <http://www.seniorCLASSaward.com>, as well as through text messaging. Fans can text MBBALL to 74567 to vote for men's finalists and WBBALL to 74567 to vote for women's finalists. These votes will be combined with votes from coaches and media to determine the recipient of the award.

UNI FEATURED IN JAN. 25 ISSUE OF SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

The University of Northern Iowa men's basketball team was featured in the Jan. 25 issue of Sports Illustrated.

SI Staff Writer Albert Chen took an in-depth look at the great balance the team has but also into the extremely unique way that Coach Ben Jacobson approaches the game.

Chen writes, "A typical team runs 15 to 20 plays during the season; the Panthers have more than 100. [Coach Ben] Jacobson tries to script the opening five to 10 minutes of a game. 'Like a football team would do,' he says. 'The other team takes away the dive [play], then you make your adjustment.' For the Panthers, keeping track of all the plays can be daunting, even for a starting five that includes three seniors. 'Coach was a valedictorian in his high school,' says [senior guard Ali] Farokhmanesh, 'so maybe he just assumes we can just memorize all of them.'"

The article is located on pgs. 45-46 of the UNI notes package.

#3 IN THE MID-MAJOR TOP 25

UNI stayed at No. 3 in the latest Collegian-sider.com Mid-Major Top 25 poll (3/8/10).

Butler is the No. 1-ranked mid-major with 29 first-place votes and 773 points in the poll. Gonzaga is No. 2 in the poll with one first-place vote and 744 points.

UNI is No. 3 in the poll with one first-place vote and 705 points.

The Panthers have posted wins over the following teams in the Mid-Major Top 25: No. 6 Siena, No. 7 Old Dominion and No. 13 Wichita State (twice).

10 • UNI MEN'S BASKETBALL

MYTHICAL STATE CHAMPIONS - 2ND TIME EVER

With UNI's victory over Drake on Jan. 27, the Panthers claimed the mythical state title for only the second-time ever.

UNI closed out its second-ever 4-0 sweep of the in-state schools with a 57-48 victory over the Bulldogs on Feb. 10 in the Knapp Center.

UNI previously won the mythical state championship in 1997-98, when the Panthers swept the state's Division I programs with a 4-0 mark.

KERWIN DELIVERS

Junior guard Kerwin Dunham started his first game of the season at Indiana State (Jan. 24), for an injured Johnny Moran, and posted a career-high 14 points on 4-of-5 shooting from the field. He was a perfect 4-of-4 at the free throw line.

It was the 22nd start of Dunham's career but first since the fourth game of the 2008-09 season. Dunham started 17 games as a freshman and four games as a sophomore.

ADAM KOCH REACHES 1,000-POINT MARK

Senior Adam Koch became the 31st player in UNI history to reach 1,000 career points when he notched 13 points against Indiana State on Jan. 16.

Koch also grabbed six rebounds to boost his career career total to 500. He is one of 12 UNI players to tally 1,000 points and 500 rebounds.

BEST MVC START FOR THE PANTHERS

UNI's 7-0 start in MVC play was the best in school history. UNI's previous best start in MVC play was 4-0 in 2001-02 and 2006-07.

CONSECUTIVE WINS RECORD

UNI set a school record Jan. 16 against Indiana State with its 15th consecutive win, breaking a mark of 14 set in the 1962-63 and 1963-64 seasons.

O'REAR PROVIDES SURGE OFF THE BENCH

Lucas O'Rear is the reigning MVC Sixth Man of the Year and his play this season off the bench could mean a second-straight award for the junior from Nashville, Ill.

O'Rear pumped nine points and nine rebounds in a 67-51 win over Drake on Jan. 27. The nine rebound effort marked a season-high for O'Rear and was two off a

career-high of 11 rebounds.

KOCH BOOSTS UNITO WINS OVER BRADLEY, INDIANA STATE

Senior Adam Koch led the Panthers to a pair of league wins over Bradley and Indiana State by scoring 10.5 points per game and grabbing 4.0 rebounds per contest.

Koch was a perfect 7-of-7 at the free throw line over the two-game stretch. Koch scored eight points in a 52-50 win over Bradley.

He then made 5-of-6 shots from the field, scored a game-high 13 points and latched onto six rebounds in a 62-40 victory over Indiana State.

FAROKHMANESH LEADS PANTHERS TO 52-50 WIN OVER BRADLEY

Ali Farokhmanesh poured in a team-high 14 points on the strength of four three-pointers, but it was his final foul of the game that helped the Panthers edge Bradley, 52-50.

UNI's Kwadzo Ahelegbe hit the front end of a 1-and-1 and missed on the back end for a two-point lead at 52-50 with 22 seconds left. UNI head coach Ben Jacobson then instructed his team to foul since the Panthers had committed only three fouls in the half.

Farokhmanesh fouled Bradley's Sam Maniscalco on three occasions in the final 20 seconds, the last coming with 0.6 seconds on the clock. Bradley then attempted an in-bounds pass toward the rim but the Panthers' Lucas O'Rear knocked it away and the Panthers hung on for the 52-50 victory.

EGLSEDER POWERS PANTHERS TO ROAD WINS AT SIU, ILLINOIS STATE

Senior center Jordan Eglseder was named the MVC Player of the Week for the third time this season after helping the Panthers to road wins at Southern Illinois and Illinois State.

Eglseder averaged 16.5 points and 11.0 rebounds in the road victories over the Salukis and Redbirds.

Eglseder posted his fifth double-double of the season in UNI's 61-49 victory at Southern Illinois with 17 points and 14 rebounds. Eglseder shot 7-of-15 from the floor against the Salukis and added a block and a steal to his stat line.

Eglseder tallied a game-high 16 points in helping the Panthers to a 59-44 win at Illinois State. Against the Redbirds, Eglseder sank 8-of-13 shots from the field and grabbed eight rebounds.

In the two games, Eglseider shot 53.6 percent from the floor (15-of-28).

EGLSEDER'S EFFORT LEADS UNI PAST MISSOURI STATE, 84-76

Senior center Jordan Eglseider posted his third double-double of the season and 13th of his career with a 22-point, 13-rebound effort against Missouri State. UNI tallied an 84-76 win over Missouri State to move to 3-0 in Missouri Valley Conference play.

PANTHERS GET DEFENSIVE AGAINST EVANSVILLE

UNI secured a 65-46 league win over Evansville to ring in the New Year on Jan. 1 in the McLeod Center.

UNI trailed by two points at the half, 33-31. But the Panthers outscored the Purple Aces in the second half, 34-13. In fact, the Purple Aces had managed to score only eight points in the second half with under three minutes left in the game.

UNI POSTS 60-52 ROAD WIN TO BEGIN VALLEY SEASON AT CREIGHTON

UNI scored a win in Creighton's Qwest Center for the second straight year with a 60-52 MVC-opening win over the Bluejays. UNI held Creighton to two baskets during the game's first 14 minutes. Creighton took a 41-37 second-half lead, but a decisive 14-3 run keyed the Panther victory.

JORDAN TORCHES WYOMING FOR 2ND STRAIGHT YEAR

Senior center Jordan Eglseider poured in 28 points and grabbed nine rebounds in leading UNI to a 72-54 victory over the visiting Wyoming Cowboys. As a result of his play, he was rewarded for the second time this season by being named the MVC Player of the Week.

Eglseider made 10-of-15 shots from the field, including draining his only 3-point attempt. Eglseider sunk 7-of-9 from the free throw line, while dishing out three assists to go against no turnovers in 32 minutes of action.

His effort propelled UNI to the win and the Missouri Valley Conference to a 5-4 victory in the Mountain West/Missouri Valley Challenge.

It marked the second straight season Eglseider put up big numbers against the Cowboys. Last season, Eglseider scored a career-high 31 points to go along with 11 rebounds in a loss to Wyoming.

SECOND-HALF SURGE

Senior Ali Farokhmanesh played nine scoreless minutes in the first half against Wyoming. However, his second half play resulted in a 180-degree turnaround as Farokhmanesh drained five 3-pointers and scored 15 points in 15 minutes of action.

MOUNTAIN WEST/MISSOURI VALLEY CHALLENGE

UNI's 72-54 win over Wyoming gave the Missouri Valley Conference a 5-4 win in the inaugural Mountain West/Missouri Valley Challenge.

"This Challenge Series is a matchup of two tradition-rich basketball conferences with great coaches, players and arenas," said MVC Commissioner Doug Elgin. "This concept will allow schools in both leagues to strengthen their non-conference schedules and improve their resumes for NCAA Tournament at-large consideration."

SONNEN SINKS SEVEN; NAMED MVC NEWCOMER OF THE WEEK

Freshman Marc Sonnen was named the MVC Newcomer of the Week after he buried 7-of-8 three-point shots in leading UNI to a 64-41 win at North Dakota.

Sonnen drained four 3-pointers in the first half and then knocked down a trio of long balls in the second half.

Sonnen's 21 points was a career-best as his previous career-high was five points on three occasions. Going into Saturday's game, Sonnen had scored 15 points this season.

FROM DEEP

UNI came within one made three-pointer of tying the school record for triples made in a game with 14 against North Dakota. UNI made 15 three-pointers on three different occasions to set the school record (vs. Nebraska 1995-96; at Drake 2003-04; vs. Wartburg 2006-07).

The Panthers buried 14-of-26 from long range with freshman guard Marc Sonnen draining seven of those long-range bombs. Sonnen came within one made three-pointer of the school record for an individual player (Cam Johnson - 8 vs. Drake in 1993-94).

BENCH PLAY

UNI's bench scored 31 points, while the starting five contributed 33 points in the 64-41 win at North Dakota.

AHELEGBE NAMED MVC PLAYER OF THE WEEK FOR SECOND TIME IN '09

University of Northern Iowa junior point guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe (Oakdale, Minn./Tartan HS) has been named the Missouri Valley Conference's Player of the Week for the second time in three weeks.

Ahelegbe averaged 17 points a game and led the Panthers to wins over Iowa and Siena. In a 67-50 win over Iowa, Ahelegbe poured in a game-high 20 points on 8-of-12 shooting from the floor. In Saturday's 82-65 triumph over Siena, Ahelegbe tossed in 14 points and dished out four assists. Over the two-game stretch, he shot 54.2 percent from the field, including 60 percent (3-of-5) from 3-point land, and averaged 3.5 rebounds per game.

It marks the third straight week a UNI player has earned the league's top honor as senior center Jordan Eglseider took league honors the previous week.

UNI BLITZES SIENA, 82-65

UNI ran its win streak to six in a row with an impressive 82-65 victory over the Siena Saints in the McLeod Center on Dec. 12.

All five Panther starters reached double figures in scoring. Leading the way was senior guard Ali Farokhmanesh with 15 points. Senior guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe and senior center Jordan Eglseider each tossed in 14, while both senior forward Adam Koch and sophomore guard Johnny Moran accounted for 12 points.

The Panther bench outscored the Saints' bench by the count of 15-4, including a 6-point, 8-rebound effort from junior forward Lucas O'Rear.

PANTHERS POST 67-50 WIN OVER HAWKEYES

The Panthers scored only the program's eighth victory in 40 tries over the Iowa Hawkeyes on Tuesday night in the McLeod Center. UNI was led by junior point guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe's game-high 20 points as the Panthers scored a 67-50 win over the Hawkeyes.

RARE DOUBLE OVER IOWA, ISU

With wins over in-state rivals Iowa and Iowa State, it marks only the third time in school history that the Panthers have beaten both of those teams in the same season.

UNI also recorded dual wins over Iowa and Iowa State in 1997-98 and 2006-07.

RAY ADDED TO THE ROSTER

Freshman guard B.J. Ray has been added

to the UNI men's basketball roster. Ray (Waynesville, Mo./Waynesville HS) is also a member of the UNI football team. Ray saw action in three games this fall for the Panther football team as a reserve linebacker and special teams player. He recorded one tackle in a 62-7 win over Indiana State (10/3).

Ray was a McDonald's All-America nominee and was a MoSports Top-50 player in basketball as a prep.

KOCH, EGLSEDER LEADS PANTHERS WIN AT IOWA STATE

Adam Koch and Jordan Eglseider each tallied 20 points in leading UNI to a 63-60 victory at Iowa State on Dec. 2.

Koch was 8-of-13 from the floor and tied for the team lead with three assists in the victory. Koch scored 12 first-half points and then drilled a pair of second-half three-pointers to key the triumph.

Eglseider notched his third double-double of the season and 12th of his career as he also secured a game-high 14 rebounds in the win over the Cyclones. Eglseider scored 10 points over a four-minute stretch (from the 8:15 mark to the 4:09 mark) in the second half. His basket with 4:09 capped a 6-0 run for the Panthers and gave UNI a 58-57 lead.

EGLSEDER NAMED MVC PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Senior center Jordan Eglseider was named the Missouri Valley Conference Player of the Week for his play against the Iowa State Cyclones. It marked the second straight week that the Panthers had a player earn the league's top honor - Kwadzo Ahelegbe earned it the previous week.

DEFENSIVE LOCKDOWN VS. IOWA STATE

UNI was able to score a 63-60 win over Iowa State on Dec. 2 on the strength of its defensive effort.

The Panthers trailed 57-52 at the 6:21 mark of the second half after a three-pointer by ISU's Dionte Garrett. The Panthers did not allow another Cyclone field goal the rest of the way and finished the game on an 11-3 run.

PERFECT 10 AT THE LINE

UNI was a perfect 10-for-10 at the free throw line against Iowa State, tying a school record for highest free throw percentage in a game. UNI drained a school-record best 18-of-18 at the charity stripe in a 1990-91 contest

against the Cleveland State Vikings.

The last time UNI made all of its free throw attempts in a game came when the Panthers were 3-for-3 at the line against Southern Illinois on Feb. 20, 2008. UNI lost the game in Carbondale, Ill., 67-47.

PANTHERS STAY PERFECT IN MCLEOD CENTER DEBUTS

UNI improved to 4-0 all-time in home openers in the McLeod Center with its 52-45 victory over the Northern Illinois Huskies (11/28). UNI opened the McLeod Center in 2006 with a 69-58 win over Wisconsin-Milwaukee. UNI then scored a 75-45 win over Northern Illinois to begin the 2007-08 season. Last year, UNI opened up home play with a 61-56 triumph over Denver.

UNI RUNS HOME-OPENING STREAK TO NINE IN A ROW

Overall, UNI has won nine straight home openers dating back to the 2001-02 season. The last time UNI lost a home opener came in the 2000-01 season when the Iowa State Cyclones scored a 69-55 victory over the Panthers.

AHELEGBE NAMED MVC PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Kwadzo Ahelegbe was named the State Farm Missouri Valley Conference Player of the Week on Nov. 30. The junior from Oakdale, Minn., (Tartan High) earned the recognition for his performance in the Panthers' victories over Boston College and Northern Illinois.

Ahelegbe earned a spot on the Paradise Jam All-Tournament team following a career-high 32-point effort in leading UNI to an 81-69 victory over Boston College. In his 32-point effort, Ahelegbe made 14-of-17 shots including 3-for-3 from beyond the three-point line.

He followed up his career-best game with a 13-point, 5-rebound performance in a 52-45 victory over Northern Illinois.

Ahelegbe averaged 22.5 points and 3.5 rebounds, while shooting 73.9 percent from the field (17-of-23) in the two games. He was a perfect 4-for-4 from beyond the arc in the two contests.

AHELEGBE EARNS ALL-TOURNEY HONORS AT PARADISE JAM

Junior point guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe was named to the Paradise Jam All-Tournament team.

Ahelegbe averaged 16.7 points and shot 16-of-25 (.640) from the field in the

three games as he led the Panthers to a 2-1 record in the tournament.

Ahelegbe saved his best for last as he tallied a career-high 32 points on 14-of-17 shooting in an 81-69 win over Boston College. The Panther point guard also dished out a game-high four assists.

PROGRAM'S FIRST-EVER WIN OVER ACC SCHOOL

UNI's 81-69 win over Boston College was the first victory over an Atlantic Coast Conference school in the history of the Panther basketball program.

UNI's previous matchups against ACC competition resulted in setbacks to Georgia Tech (L, 65-60 - 2004 NCAA Tournament) and Clemson (L, 63-60 - 1991-92 regular season).

EGLSEDER, KOCH LEAD PANTHERS TO WIN OVER EAST CAROLINA

Seniors Jordan Eglseider and Adam Koch paced the Panther offensive attack in a 74-68 victory over East Carolina. Eglseider posted his second double-double of the season (11th of his career) with 19 points and 10 rebounds against the Pirates. Koch scored a season-high 25 points and drained all five of his three-point attempts against the Pirates.

NEWCOMERS STEP UP VS. DEPAUL

True freshman Marc Sonnen and redshirt freshman Anthony James scored their first points of the season against the DePaul Blue Demons in the first round of the Paradise Jam.

Sonnen was a perfect 2-for-2 from the field, including a three-pointer. James was 2-for-3 from the field with a three-pointer as well. Each tallied five points in the matchup vs. the Blue Demons.

FOR OPENERS

UNI won its eighth straight season-opening game with a 71-65 victory at Denver. Head coach Ben Jacobson improved to 4-0 in season openers with the triumph.

KWADZO LEADS THE WAY VS. DENVER

Junior point guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe led the Panthers to a 71-65 season-opening road win over the Denver Pioneers.

Ahelegbe scored a team-high 18 points on 5-of-10 shooting from the floor, which included a pair of three-pointers.

Ahelegbe led a charge at the end of the first half with the Panthers trailing 21-15, he scored six of the team's final eight

points including a driving layup to put the Panthers on top, 22-21, with 1:03 remaining before halftime. Ahelegbe also tallied five rebounds, two assists and a steal in the victory.

KOCH STEPS UP IN 2ND HALF AGAINST DENVER

Preseason all-conference selection Adam Koch provided a second-half charge for the Panthers in their road win at Denver. Koch, who had committed three first-half fouls and was held scoreless through the first 20 minutes, responded with 13 second-half points. Koch was perfect in his shooting efforts in the game as he made both of his field goal attempts to go with his 9-of-9 shooting at the free throw line.

SEEING DOUBLE-DOUBLE

Senior center Jordan Eglseder secured his 10th career double-double by tallying 12 points and 12 rebounds in UNI's 71-65 win at Denver. Eglseder posted three double-doubles as a sophomore and six as a junior.

BALANCE AT THE TOP

Four of UNI's starters tallied double-figure scoring totals in the season-opening victory at Denver. Junior guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe led the way with 18 points. Senior guard Ali Farokhmanesh popped in 16 points, while senior forward Adam Koch notched 13 points. Senior center Jordan Eglseder notched 12 points as well.

UNI WELCOMES BACK ELDON MILLER; TOPS PEMBROKE, 79-44

UNI celebrated Eldon & Dee Miller Day Nov. 7 when UNC-Pembroke came to town for an exhibition game against the Panthers. UNC-Pembroke was coached by Ben Miller and assisted by his father, Eldon. Eldon Miller was the head coach at UNI from 1987-1998 and coached the second-most games in UNI men's basketball history. He led the Panthers to their first NCAA Division I tournament in 1990 after winning the Mid-Continent Conference Tournament to clinch the league's automatic bid. Fourteenth-seeded UNI went on to upset third-seeded Missouri in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

UNI scored a 79-44 victory over the UNC-Pembroke Braves in the final exhibition tuneup of the season. UNI senior center Jordan Eglseder made his season debut with 15 points on 7-of-8 shooting in the victory.

13 • UNI MEN'S BASKETBALL

PANTHERS PICK OFF THE PEACOCKS, 67-39

The Panthers began the exhibition season with a 67-39 victory over Division II Upper Iowa on Oct. 31. Kwadzo Ahelegbe led the way with 12 points and freshman Marc Sonnen debuted with 11 points.

UNI PICKED TO WIN MISSOURI VALLEY CONFERENCE TITLE

The Panthers were a near unanimous pick to win the league title in the preseason Missouri Valley Conference men's basketball poll, in voting by the league's coaches, sports information directors and media.

It marks the second time in league history the Panthers have been pegged as the preseason favorites. UNI was also picked to win the league in 2005-06. UNI finished fifth in the conference race in 2005-06, but earned an at-large bid into the NCAA Tournament.

UNI tallied 38 of a possible 39 first place votes and tallied 389 out of a possible 390 points. Creighton was second with one first-place vote and 336 points, followed by Illinois State in third with 299 points. Southern Illinois was fourth with 272 points, Wichita State was fifth with 216 points and Bradley was sixth with 208 points. Rounding out the voting was Indiana State (173 points), Drake (105 points), Missouri State (92 points) and Evansville (55 points).

UNI became the 12th team to win the title after being pegged as the preseason favorite.

KOCH, AHELEGBE NAMED TO PRE-SEASON ALL-MVC SQUAD

A pair of Panthers highlight the six-person preseason all-Missouri Valley Conference squad, including senior Adam Koch and junior Kwadzo Ahelegbe. Koch averaged 12.1 points and 5.1 rebounds last year and was a first-team all-MVC choice in 2008-09, while Ahelegbe was a second-team all-conference selection and a member of the league's all-Defensive Team.

They are joined on the unit by Illinois State's Osiris Eldridge, Southern Illinois' Tony Freeman, Drake's Josh Young, and Creighton's P'Allen Stinnett. Eldridge, a first-team all-MVC pick a year ago and the State Farm MVC Tournament Most Outstanding Player, was chosen as the league's Preseason Player of the Year.

EGLSEDER ATTENDED PETE NEWELL BIG MAN CAMP

UNI senior center Jordan Eglseder spent

part of his summer learning at the nation's premier Big Man camp when he went to Hawaii and took part in Pete Newell's Big Man Camp.

"The work he's put in has set him up to have a great senior year. That's what you hope - that guys are working at a different level when they're going into their senior year. What I've liked in our conversations is his approach," UNI head coach Ben Jacobson said. "He's got his goals in mind, but he also has our team in mind as he's preparing for his senior year."

PRESEASON PUBS TAB PANTHERS AT VALLEY FAVORITES

The University of Northern Iowa men's basketball team has been tabbed as the favorite in the Valley among the many preseason publications.

UNI has been picked to finish first in the Missouri Valley Conference in The Sporting News' 2009-2010 College Basketball Preview, Lindy's College Basketball Preview and Athlon Sports College Basketball Preview issue.

Senior forward Adam Koch and junior guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe has been named to the preseason all-Valley first teams by The Sporting News and Athlon. Koch was named a preseason first-teamer by Lindy's. Ahelegbe is a second-team pick in Lindy's. Senior center Jordan Eglseder is a third-team honoree in Lindy's.

UNI INKS 3 IN EARLY SIGNING PERIOD

University of Northern Iowa head men's basketball coach Ben Jacobson announced the signing of three student-athletes to National Letters-of-Intent.

Jacobson inked Nathan Buss (Charles City, Iowa), Doug McDermott (Ames, Iowa) and Chip Rank (Cedarburg, Wis.) to play for the Panthers beginning in 2010-11.

"We are excited to add three quality young guys to our program today," UNI head coach Ben Jacobson said. "Doug, Chip and Nate have demonstrated the work ethic, toughness and competitiveness it takes to be successful both academically and on the basketball floor at this level. They address a need in our program going forward as they bring size, skill and tremendous versatility to the court."

Buss, a 6-8, 190-pounder from Charles City, Iowa, was a third-team all-state selection in 2008-09, while averaging 18.4 points, 8.4 rebounds, 1.8 assists per game. Buss shot 55 percent from the field, including 34

percent from beyond the three-point arc at Charles City High School. He earned first-team all-district Iowa Basketball Coaches Association honors as a junior and was a first-team all-conference performer. Buss was named to the North Iowa Area team as well.

He was a state cross country participant this past fall. Buss is the son of Jeff and Joyce Buss. Jeff was a three-year letterwinner on the UNI football team from 1982-1984.

"Nate can really score," Jacobson said. "He makes threes, scores on the block and can put the ball on the floor. We really like Nate's size and ability to play away from the basket."

McDermott helped lead the Ames Little Cyclones to the 4A state championship as a junior and a senior. He finished his career having won 53 straight games. McDermott went 26-0 as a junior and 27-0 as a senior. McDermott, a 6-7, 195-pounder, was a second-team all-state honoree last season. He was a first-team all-conference player as a junior, and was named to the Class 4A 2009 and 2010 State All-Tournament teams.

In 2008-09, McDermott averaged 14 points and seven rebounds per game. He shot 70.9 percent from the field, including 50 percent from three-point range.

He is the son of Greg and Theresa McDermott. Greg played for the Panthers from 1985-88 and then served as the Panthers' head coach from 2002-06.

"Doug has great versatility to his game to go along with a tremendous feel for how to play," Jacobson said. "We feel like Doug has just scratched the surface as he has made impressive strides over the past year and a half. His ability to make threes, score around the basket and pass the ball fits our system well."

Rank is a 6-6, 215-pounder from Cedarburg, Wis. Rank is a four-year varsity starter, who earned honorable mention all-state honors in 2008-09 at Cedarburg High School. Rank is a two-time all-conference player in basketball. He earned second-team all-conference status as a quarterback in football this past fall.

Rank averaged 19.3 point and 8.5 rebounds per game as a junior. He shot 61 percent from the field, which includes an accuracy of 44 percent from three-point territory.

Rank is the son of Scott and Beetle Rank. Rank is a member of National Honor Society.

"Chip is a tough, hard-nosed competitor," Jacobson said. "He shoots a high percentage from the three-point line and can really pass the basketball. He brings a high level of energy to everything he does, which will have a positive impact on our entire program."

WEEKLY PRESS LUNCHEONS

UNI head coach Ben Jacobson or a member of his coaching staff will be available at the weekly Press Luncheons held each Monday beginning at noon in the back room of Pepper's Grill and Sports Pub located on 18th Street in Cedar Falls.

PANTHER SPORTS TALK WITH COACH JAKE

UNI head coach Ben Jacobson's weekly radio call-in show – Panther Sports Talk with Ben Jacobson – will be broadcast live on the Panther Sports Network every Thursday throughout the season.

The show will take place at Beck's on the Hill in Cedar Falls and will run from 6:05 p.m. - 7 p.m. and is hosted by the Voice of the Panthers, Gary Rima.

UNI ATHLETICS ON YOUTUBE

Looking for highlights, post-game comments and press conference coverage? Log on to UNI Athletics on YouTube for the latest video coverage of the Panthers - www.youtube.com/uniathletics.

The YouTube channel will show exclusive interviews with coaches and student-athletes along with other videos showcasing Panther pride.

FOLLOW THE PANTHERS ON FACEBOOK & TWITTER

Fans of UNI Athletics on Facebook and Twitter will have access to in-game updates, score recaps and special announcements.

UNI Athletics on Facebook will give fans the chance to connect with other Panther fans, as well as providing information on upcoming events. Followers on Twitter will be able to access up-to-the-minute score updates and news about the Panthers on their computer or mobile device.

FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/UNIathletics

TWITTER

www.twitter.com/UNIathletics

2009-2010 University of Northern Iowa Men's Basketball Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Hometown
5	Ali Farokhmanesh	G	6-0	190	Sr.	Iowa City, Iowa
10	Brian Haak	G	6-1	175	Sr.	Spencer, Iowa
11	Kwadzo Ahelegbe	G	6-2	200	Jr.	Oakdale, Minn.
13	Johnny Moran	G	6-1	190	So.	Algonquin, Ill.
15	B.J. Ray	G	6-3	205	Fr.	Waynesville, Mo.
20	Jake Koch	F	6-9	255	R-Fr.	Ashwaubenon, Wis.
21	Matt Morrison	G	6-0	175	Fr.	Solon, Iowa
22	Kerwin Dunham	G	6-6	200	Jr.	Bondurant, Iowa
23	Marc Sonnen	G	6-3	185	Fr.	St. Paul, Minn.
32	Lucas O'Rear	F	6-6	255	Jr.	Nashville, Ill.
33	Austin Pehl	C	6-10	245	R-Fr.	Cedar Falls, Iowa
34	Adam Koch	F	6-8	255	Sr.	Ashwaubenon, Wis.
40	Tyler Lange	F	6-6	210	Fr.	Sac City, Iowa/Urbandale
43	Adam Rodenberg	F	6-6	245	Sr.	Garnaville, Iowa
52	Anthony James	G	6-0	175	R-Fr.	St. Louis, Mo.
53	Jordan Eglseder	C	7-0	280	Sr.	Bellevue, Iowa

Head Coach: Ben Jacobson (Univ. of North Dakota '94), Fourth Year

Assistant Coaches: Kyle Green, P.J. Hogan, Ben Johnson

Director of Basketball Operations: Derrik Netten

Director of Athletic Training: Don Bishop

Pronunciation Guide

Kwadzo Ahelegbe	Kuh-JOE Uh-HELIG-buh
Jordan Eglseder	EGGLE-seed-er
Ali Farokhmanesh	Ah-LEE Fuh-ROAK-muh-NESH
Brian Haak	HAKE
Adam/Jake Koch	COOK
Austin Pehl	PEEL
Adam Rodenberg	ROAD-en-berg
Marc Sonnen	SAWN-in

2009-2010 UNI GAME-BY-GAME STATS

Opponent	Date	Score		Total		3-Pointers		Free throws		Rebounds				pf	a	t/o	blk	stl	pts	avg
				fg-fga	pct	3fg-fga	pct	ft-fa	pct	off	def	tot	avg							
at Denver	11/13/09	71-65	W	21-44	.477	7-17	.412	22-33	.667	10	24	34	34.0	19	6	13	2	4	71	71.0
vs DePaul	11/20/09	52-60	L	17-52	.327	9-23	.391	9-16	.563	10	21	31	32.5	15	10	9	1	3	52	61.5
vs East Carolina	11/21/09	74-68	W	23-56	.411	6-23	.261	22-30	.733	14	21	35	33.3	21	13	11	0	4	74	65.7
vs Boston College	11/23/09	81-69	W	35-54	.648	5-9	.556	6-12	.500	5	15	20	30.0	23	11	5	1	5	81	69.5
NORTHERN ILLINOIS	11/28/09	52-45	W	16-47	.340	4-17	.235	16-27	.593	15	22	37	31.4	9	4	13	2	6	52	66.0
at Iowa State	12/02/09	63-60	W	24-63	.381	5-17	.294	10-10	1.000	15	23	38	32.5	14	8	9	4	5	63	65.5
IOWA	12/08/09	67-50	W	26-49	.531	7-16	.438	8-16	.500	6	22	28	31.9	15	9	5	0	6	67	65.7
SIENA	12/12/09	82-65	W	29-55	.527	9-16	.563	15-24	.625	11	29	40	32.9	20	19	13	1	5	82	67.8
at North Dakota	12/19/09	64-41	W	18-40	.450	14-26	.538	14-19	.737	12	17	29	32.4	14	15	20	5	10	64	67.3
WYOMING	12/23/09	72-54	W	27-60	.450	9-22	.409	9-13	.692	12	19	31	32.3	10	12	10	0	7	72	67.8
at Creighton	12/29/09	60-52	W	18-51	.353	5-19	.263	19-21	.905	5	33	38	32.8	19	11	8	1	4	60	67.1
EVANSVILLE	01/01/10	65-46	W	21-48	.438	7-17	.412	16-16	1.000	8	27	35	33.0	13	8	13	3	6	65	66.9
MISSOURI STATE	01/03/10	84-76	W	28-53	.528	9-17	.529	19-21	.905	6	22	28	32.6	20	12	8	1	7	84	68.2
at Southern Illinois	01/06/10	61-49	W	19-49	.388	6-17	.353	17-25	.680	9	30	39	33.1	16	13	8	3	4	61	67.7
at Illinois State	01/09/10	59-44	W	21-47	.447	4-15	.267	13-16	.813	8	23	31	32.9	8	10	10	0	10	59	67.1
BRADLEY	01/12/10	52-50	W	19-47	.404	4-15	.267	10-13	.769	7	22	29	32.7	11	10	20	3	10	52	66.2
INDIANA STATE	01/16/10	62-40	W	26-53	.491	5-20	.250	5-9	.556	11	26	37	32.9	17	10	9	1	4	62	65.9
at Wichita State	01/19/10	51-60	L	20-48	.417	2-13	.154	9-14	.643	6	23	29	32.7	21	10	10	2	4	51	65.1
at Indiana State	01/24/10	67-58	W	23-45	.511	6-19	.316	15-19	.789	10	25	35	32.8	14	16	14	3	4	67	65.2
DRAKE	01/27/10	67-51	W	24-51	.471	6-19	.316	13-15	.867	11	24	35	33.0	15	11	7	4	4	67	65.3
at Missouri State	01/30/10	55-54	W	20-44	.455	3-14	.214	12-16	.750	9	20	29	32.8	12	8	10	5	3	55	64.8
WICHITA STATE	02/03/10	59-56	W	19-50	.380	5-16	.313	16-22	.727	12	23	35	32.9	16	7	10	0	5	59	64.5
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	02/06/10	55-52	W	17-45	.378	5-15	.333	16-21	.762	10	20	30	32.7	18	7	15	1	8	55	64.1
at Drake	02/10/10	57-48	W	22-51	.431	7-18	.389	6-6	1.000	12	22	34	32.8	13	11	6	2	2	57	63.8
at Bradley	02/13/10	59-68	L	18-55	.327	6-30	.200	17-18	.944	14	24	38	33.0	19	13	16	2	3	59	63.6
CREIGHTON	02/16/10	70-52	W	20-44	.455	13-27	.481	17-23	.739	4	22	26	32.7	18	10	6	3	6	70	63.9
OLD DOMINION	02/19/10	71-62	W	22-47	.468	10-22	.455	17-21	.810	9	21	30	32.6	17	14	14	1	5	71	64.1
at U. of Evansville	02/23/10	54-55	L	16-48	.333	5-23	.217	17-18	.944	10	21	31	32.6	21	5	15	3	4	54	63.8
ILLINOIS STATE	02/27/10	61-55	W	18-49	.367	6-16	.375	19-23	.826	7	24	31	32.5	14	11	10	2	6	61	63.7
vs Drake	03/05/10	55-40	W	19-48	.396	4-16	.250	13-16	.813	10	26	36	32.6	16	13	8	0	4	55	63.4
vs Bradley	03/06/10	57-40	W	22-58	.379	8-24	.333	5-6	.833	13	20	33	32.6	15	15	7	1	9	57	63.2
vs Wichita State	03/07/10	67-52	W	20-46	.435	10-20	.500	17-23	.739	4	23	27	32.5	18	9	5	7	9	67	63.3
Univ. of Northern Iowa		2026		688-1597	.431	211-598	.353	439-582	.754	305	734	1039	32.5	511	341	337	64	176	2026	63.3
Opponents		1737		625-1549	.403	182-549	.332	305-442	.690	257	687	944	29.5	588	277	392	61	141	1737	54.3

2009-2010 UNI POINTS - REBOUNDS - ASSISTS

				05	10	11	13	20	22	23
Opponent	Date	Score		FAROKHMANE	HAAK,BRIAN	AHELEGBE,K	MORAN,JOHN	KOCH,JAKE	DUNHAM,KER	SONNEN,MAR
at Denver	11/13/09	71-65	W	16-2-0	DNP	18-5-2	4-3-1	0-0-0	5-1-1	0-1-0
vs DePaul	11/20/09	52-60	L	12-0-0	DNP	9-2-1	0-4-1	2-3-2	6-4-2	5-0-0
vs East Carolina	11/21/09	74-68	W	7-2-0	DNP	9-1-3	9-3-4	2-3-1	1-1-1	0-1-0
vs Boston College	11/23/09	81-69	W	2-1-0	DNP	32-2-4	2-2-1	2-3-1	1-0-2	5-1-0
NORTHERN ILLINOIS	11/28/09	52-45	W	11-1-0	DNP	13-5-2	0-3-1	3-2-0	0-3-0	0-1-1
at Iowa State	12/02/09	63-60	W	9-4-0	DNP	10-4-3	2-3-1	2-1-0	0-1-0	0-0-0
IOWA	12/08/09	67-50	W	6-3-1	DNP	20-4-2	6-1-0	1-0-3	5-0-1	5-5-0
SIENA	12/12/09	82-65	W	15-2-4	DNP	14-3-4	12-5-1	2-2-0	4-1-2	0-1-2
at North Dakota	12/19/09	64-41	W	11-0-1	0-0-0	5-7-5	6-0-1	1-1-2	4-0-5	21-4-0
WYOMING	12/23/09	72-54	W	15-1-1	DNP	8-3-1	3-5-2	0-1-0	10-1-1	0-1-0
at Creighton	12/29/09	60-52	W	15-1-1	DNP	12-4-4	3-8-2	0-4-1	2-2-0	3-0-0
EVANSVILLE	01/01/10	65-46	W	3-1-0	0-1-0	7-2-0	15-5-0	6-6-0	8-0-3	2-5-0
MISSOURI STATE	01/03/10	84-76	W	13-0-1	DNP	4-0-1	9-3-1	6-1-0	7-0-2	0-2-1
at Southern Illinois	01/06/10	61-49	W	3-0-1	DNP	7-2-3	11-3-1	0-2-2	3-2-1	3-1-0
at Illinois State	01/09/10	59-44	W	0-1-0	DNP	13-1-4	7-6-1	4-1-0	0-0-2	0-1-0
BRADLEY	01/12/10	52-50	W	14-0-1	DNP	9-1-3	0-5-5	0-2-0	2-3-0	0-1-0
INDIANA STATE	01/16/10	62-40	W	5-2-0	0-0-0	11-3-1	11-1-2	5-3-3	0-1-1	3-2-0
at Wichita State	01/19/10	51-60	L	10-2-1	DNP	11-4-4	3-4-2	0-0-0	0-0-0	0-0-0
at Indiana State	01/24/10	67-58	W	9-3-3	DNP	9-4-6	DNP	0-1-1	14-2-2	5-1-1
DRAKE	01/27/10	67-51	W	10-1-3	0-0-0	9-2-1	3-2-1	5-2-0	2-2-0	2-1-2
at Missouri State	01/30/10	55-54	W	5-1-1	DNP	4-3-3	DNP	5-5-0	2-3-2	9-0-0
WICHITA STATE	02/03/10	59-56	W	7-3-1	DNP	18-4-1	0-0-2	0-8-1	4-1-0	0-0-0
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	02/06/10	55-52	W	8-0-0	DNP	10-7-3	3-4-2	2-1-0	2-0-0	0-1-0
at Drake	02/10/10	57-48	W	10-3-4	DNP	2-5-4	10-4-0	5-2-1	0-1-0	2-0-0
at Bradley	02/13/10	59-68	L	14-1-1	DNP	13-4-3	2-4-3	0-7-3	2-1-0	2-1-1
CREIGHTON	02/16/10	70-52	W	17-0-1	DNP	6-5-4	17-1-0	5-5-1	6-0-1	3-1-1
OLD DOMINION	02/19/10	71-62	W	23-2-2	DNP	10-1-5	5-5-3	4-4-2	5-0-0	3-1-0
at U. of Evansville	02/23/10	54-55	L	7-3-1	DNP	2-0-1	3-1-2	22-10-0	2-2-1	0-3-0
ILLINOIS STATE	02/27/10	61-55	W	5-0-1	DNP	10-1-3	7-7-2	4-3-0	10-1-0	0-1-0
vs Drake	03/05/10	55-40	W	6-3-1	0-0-0	7-2-4	8-4-1	0-2-1	2-1-0	4-0-0
vs Bradley	03/06/10	57-40	W	5-2-2	0-0-0	5-6-1	5-4-3	0-2-3	3-0-0	10-0-1
vs Wichita State	03/07/10	67-52	W	5-3-2	DNP	24-5-0	3-2-0	13-2-2	3-0-3	0-1-0

				32	33	34	43	52	53
Opponent	Date	Score		O'REAR,LUC	PEHL,AUSTI	KOCH,ADAM	RODENBERG,	JAMES,ANTH	EGLSEDER,J
at Denver	11/13/09	71-65	W	3-4-0	DNP	13-2-1	0-1-0	DNP	12-12-1
vs DePaul	11/20/09	52-60	L	2-4-1	DNP	9-5-2	DNP	5-1-0	2-6-1
vs East Carolina	11/21/09	74-68	W	2-4-1	DNP	25-6-2	0-0-0	0-0-0	19-10-1
vs Boston College	11/23/09	81-69	W	8-2-2	DNP	14-2-1	DNP	2-0-0	13-5-0
NORTHERN ILLINOIS	11/28/09	52-45	W	2-2-0	DNP	15-7-0	0-1-0	0-1-0	8-9-0
at Iowa State	12/02/09	63-60	W	0-2-1	DNP	20-7-3	0-0-0	0-0-0	20-14-0
IOWA	12/08/09	67-50	W	0-4-1	0-2-0	10-4-1	0-0-0	4-0-0	10-2-0
SIENA	12/12/09	82-65	W	6-8-3	DNP	12-4-3	DNP	3-0-0	14-9-0
at North Dakota	12/19/09	64-41	W	2-2-1	0-0-0	9-3-0	0-2-0	3-1-0	2-4-0
WYOMING	12/23/09	72-54	W	2-4-4	DNP	6-4-0	DNP	DNP	28-9-3
at Creighton	12/29/09	60-52	W	6-6-1	DNP	8-8-0	DNP	0-0-0	11-4-2
EVANSVILLE	01/01/10	65-46	W	2-2-2	0-0-0	16-2-3	0-0-0	0-0-0	6-9-0
MISSOURI STATE	01/03/10	84-76	W	2-3-3	DNP	18-5-3	DNP	3-0-0	22-13-0
at Southern Illinois	01/06/10	61-49	W	6-4-1	DNP	11-5-3	DNP	0-0-0	17-14-1
at Illinois State	01/09/10	59-44	W	4-5-1	DNP	15-3-2	DNP	0-0-0	16-8-0
BRADLEY	01/12/10	52-50	W	8-3-0	DNP	8-2-1	DNP	0-0-0	11-10-0
INDIANA STATE	01/16/10	62-40	W	10-7-1	0-0-0	13-6-2	0-0-0	0-0-0	4-6-0
at Wichita State	01/19/10	51-60	L	2-3-0	DNP	11-5-1	DNP	DNP	14-7-2
at Indiana State	01/24/10	67-58	W	4-6-2	DNP	9-6-0	DNP	5-2-0	12-7-1
DRAKE	01/27/10	67-51	W	9-9-0	0-0-0	14-4-3	0-0-0	3-2-0	10-6-1
at Missouri State	01/30/10	55-54	W	6-3-0	DNP	10-6-1	DNP	0-0-0	14-6-1
WICHITA STATE	02/03/10	59-56	W	4-9-0	DNP	11-3-2	DNP	DNP	15-4-0
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	02/06/10	55-52	W	5-8-2	DNP	21-4-0	DNP	0-0-0	4-4-0
at Drake	02/10/10	57-48	W	8-2-1	DNP	12-8-1	DNP	DNP	8-6-0
at Bradley	02/13/10	59-68	L	4-6-0	DNP	6-5-2	DNP	3-0-0	13-6-0
CREIGHTON	02/16/10	70-52	W	4-5-1	DNP	9-7-1	0-0-0	3-1-0	DNP
OLD DOMINION	02/19/10	71-62	W	7-6-1	DNP	8-7-1	6-3-0	0-0-0	DNP
at U. of Evansville	02/23/10	54-55	L	4-4-0	DNP	14-5-0	0-1-0	0-0-0	DNP
ILLINOIS STATE	02/27/10	61-55	W	0-4-2	DNP	12-5-1	DNP	DNP	13-6-2
vs Drake	03/05/10	55-40	W	8-8-1	DNP	10-7-4	0-0-0	DNP	10-6-1
vs Bradley	03/06/10	57-40	W	4-4-2	0-1-0	7-6-2	0-0-0	8-0-0	10-5-1
vs Wichita State	03/07/10	67-52	W	4-2-1	DNP	0-4-0	DNP	5-0-0	10-4-1

2009-2010 RECAPS/BOXSCORES

Exhibition 1: UNI 67, Upper Iowa 39

Oct. 31, 2009

McLeod Center - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa - The University of Northern Iowa men's basketball squad scored a 67-39 exhibition victory over the Upper Iowa Peacocks in the McLeod Center.

UNI was led by junior guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe's 12-point effort and freshman guard Marc Sonnen's 11 points in the triumph.

The Panthers started slowly but defensively kept the Peacocks in check as senior forward Adam Koch's pair of free throws gave the home squad a 9-2 advantage with 13:12 left in the first half. UNI extended the advantage to 22-9 on a transition layup by redshirt freshman center Austin Pehl with 7:25 left in the first half.

UNI opened up its largest lead of the first half at 34-14 after a three-pointer from redshirt freshman forward Adam Koch. The Panthers went into the intermission with a 36-19 advantage.

Upper Iowa hung around early in the second half and trimmed the UNI lead to 39-31 with 15:11 remaining in the game following a Chris Sullivan layup. But a 12-0 Panther run capped by a miraculous bucket by Johnny Moran gave the Panthers some much needed breathing room at 51-31 with 9:53 left in the contest.

The Panthers took their biggest lead of the day in the closing minute when freshman guard Matt Morrison knocked down a jumper to give the home squad a 30-point lead at 67-37. UNI closed the game on a 28-8 run.

Upper Iowa (39)										
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP		
12	Lesan	23	2-4	2-2	5	1	0	7		
13	Hughes	24	3-6	2-6	3	1	3	9		
22	Bestul	20	1-6	1-1	1	1	1	3		
23	Kramer	19	2-2	0-0	3	0	2	4		
34	Sullivan	16	1-5	0-1	2	0	1	2		
01	Burgos	18	1-4	0-0	3	0	2	3		
05	Arnold	6	0-0	0-0	1	1	1	0		
10	Eighmey	10	1-2	0-0	0	0	0	2		
24	Lafrenz, Ma.	4	0-2	0-0	0	0	1	0		
32	Gross	17	0-4	0-2	4	0	4	0		
33	Elgin	7	0-1	0-0	1	1	0	0		
44	Wentzien	13	2-4	0-0	3	0	1	4		
45	Steffeck	13	1-2	0-0	3	1	2	3		
52	Lafrenz, Mi.	10	1-5	0-0	1	0	2	2		
Totals		200	15-47	5-12	32	6	20	39		

UNI (67)										
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP		
05	Farokhmanesh	21	1-4	0-0	4	1	0	3		
11	Ahelegbe	21	5-7	1-3	1	2	0	12		
13	Moran	20	3-5	2-3	5	0	2	8		
32	O'Rear	20	2-3	1-1	2	1	1	5		
34	Koch, A.	20	2-4	4-6	2	1	1	8		
20	Koch, J.	15	1-6	3-4	5	1	2	6		
21	Morrison	8	1-1	0-0	2	0	1	2		
22	Dunham	13	2-2	0-0	2	1	0	4		
23	Sonnen	14	3-4	3-3	5	0	2	11		
33	Pehl	14	1-5	0-0	1	1	1	2		
40	Lange	7	0-1	0-0	1	1	1	0		
43	Rodenberg	9	1-2	0-1	2	1	1	2		
52	James	18	2-6	0-2	3	1	2	4		
Totals		200	24-50	14-23	36	11	14	67		

Halftime - UNI 36, UIU 19. 3-Pt. Shooting - UIU 4-18 (Steffeck 1-1, Hughes 1-2, Lesan 1-3, Burgos 1-4, Gross 0-3, Ma. Lafrenz 0-2, Bestul 0-1, Eighmey 0-1, Elgin 0-1), UNI 5-12 (Sonnen 2-2, Ahelegbe 1-2, J. Koch 1-2, Farokhmanesh 1-3, Moran 0-1, A. Koch 0-1, James 0-1). Turnovers - UIU 20, UNI 9. Blocks - UIU 3, UNI 1. Steals - UIU 2, UNI 10. Att. - 1,525.

Exhibition 2: UNI 79, UNC-Pembroke 44

Nov. 7, 2009

McLeod Center - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa - The University of Northern Iowa men's basketball team posted a 79-44 exhibition victory over the UNC-Pembroke Braves on Saturday in the McLeod Center.

Senior Jordan Eglseider led the Panthers with 15 points on 7-for-8 shooting. Ali Farokhmanesh added 10 points and Adam Rodenberg scored 10 points off the bench with 5-of-6 shooting from the field.

UNI led 30-23 at halftime after committing nine turnovers in the opening half. The Panthers' biggest margin of the half came at 30-21 after Farokhmanesh made a jumper with 1:03 left.

UNI shot 12-of-27 in the first half, while the Braves shot 9-of-25.

An offensive outburst to open the second half sent the Panthers on a 13-1 run that was capped by three-pointers from Kwadzo Ahelegbe and Farokhmanesh. A 16-4 run put UNI up 61-32 with 12:06 left in the game.

UNI opened the second half shooting 13-of-14 from the field and finished 20-of-29. The Panthers' 69 percent shooting in the second half proved to be the difference against UNC-Pembroke's 35.7 field goal percentage for the game. UNI outscored the Braves 49-21 over the final 20 minutes.

Redshirt freshman Jake Koch led the Panthers with five rebounds and he tied Ahelegbe for the team lead with three assists in 21 minutes.

UNC-Pembroke (44)										
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP		
12	Brackett	27	1-5	0-0	1	1	3	2		
25	Egill	23	1-3	0-0	2	1	1	2		
30	Heath	24	0-5	3-4	1	1	4	3		
42	Priest	19	1-2	0-2	2	0	2	2		
50	Thomas	24	6-11	5-11	5	1	2	17		
10	Cross	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0		
14	Smith	3	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0		
20	Cooper	22	1-5	1-3	2	1	0	3		
22	Burnell	3	0-1	2-2	0	0	0	2		
32	Alston	3	0-0	2-2	1	0	0	0		
33	Thorpe	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0		
34	Hargrove	14	1-2	0-0	3	1	1	2		
40	Robinson	6	0-2	0-0	1	0	0	0		
52	Blakeney	26	4-5	1-6	3	0	4	9		
Totals		200	15-42	14-30	26	6	18	44		

UNI (79)										
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP		
05	Farokhmanesh	18	3-4	2-2	0	1	0	10		
11	Ahelegbe	17	2-6	1-2	1	3	2	7		
13	Moran	17	1-1	0-0	2	1	1	2		
34	A. Koch	11	1-5	2-2	2	0	3	4		
53	Eglseider	12	7-8	1-1	3	1	0	15		
20	J. Koch	21	3-4	1-2	5	3	3	8		
21	Morrison	14	2-4	0-0	0	1	1	4		
22	Dunham	15	1-3	0-2	3	1	0	3		
23	Sonnen	23	2-4	0-2	1	1	0	4		
32	O'Rear	6	1-1	0-0	1	2	3	2		
33	Pehl	7	1-2	2-2	1	0	3	4		
40	Lange	6	0-1	0-0	4	0	4	0		
43	Rodenberg	15	5-6	0-0	4	1	4	10		
52	James	18	3-7	0-0	1	2	1	6		
Totals		200	32-56	9-15	34	17	25	79		

Halftime - UNI 30, UNC 23. 3-Pt. Shooting - UNC 0-9 (Cooper 0-3, Brackett 0-2, Heath 0-2, Egill 0-1, Smith 0-1), UNI 6-14 (Farokhmanesh 2-3, Ahelegbe 2-4, Dunham 1-1, J. Koch 1-2, Morrison 0-1, Sonnen 0-1, James 0-1). Turnovers - UNC 18, UNI 12. Blocks - UNC 0, UNI 3. Steals - UNC 7, UNI 7. Att. - 1,528.

Game 1: UNI 71, Denver 65

Nov. 13, 2009

Magness Arena - Denver, Colo.

Denver, Colo. - The University of Northern Iowa men's basketball team opened the 2009-2010 season with a 71-65 road victory over the Denver Pioneers at Magness Arena. The win marked UNI's eighth straight in season openers.

The Panthers had four starters in double figures, led by senior guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe's 18 points. Senior guard Ali Farokhmanesh added 16 points, including a team-high three triples in the second half. Senior Adam Koch pitched in 13 second-half points, which included a perfect 9-for-9 from the free throw stripe. Senior center Jordan Eglseider posted a double-double with 12 points and 12 rebounds.

Denver opened up a pair of six-point leads in the first half and held the lead until the 1:03 mark when Ahelegbe drove the lane to give UNI a 21-20 lead. The Panthers extended the lead to 23-21 on a free throw by Ahelegbe with 18 seconds left. UNI held the Pioneers scoreless over the final 4:58 of the first half and closed the half on an 8-0 run.

The Pioneers knotted the game at 23-23 when Nate Rohnert scored a layup 19 seconds into the second half. UNI then went on a 10-3 capped by a Farokhmanesh three-pointer at the 17:35 mark.

The game was tied at 49-49 with 7:04 left, but a conventional three-point play by Ahelegbe gave the Panthers the lead for good with 6:13 remaining. The Pioneers would trim the lead to one on two occasions but Farokhmanesh dropped in a pair of three-pointers to thwart the Pioneer rally.

Sophomore Johnny Moran knocked down his only points of the game on a three-pointer with 3:14 left to push the Panther lead to five points. Denver could only get within three-points the rest of the way as the Panthers drained 8-of-9 free throws in the final minute to salt the game away.

UNI (71)										
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP		
05	Farokhmanesh	29	5-9	3-3	2	0	3	16		
11	Ahelegbe	38	5-10	6-9	5	2	3	18		
13	Moran	33	1-6	1-2	3	1	4	4		
34	A. Koch	20	2-2	9-9	2	1	3	13		
53	Eglseider	22	5-11	2-6	12	1	1	12		
20	J. Koch	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0		
22	Dunham	25	2-2	0-1	1	1	2	5		
23	Sonnen	5	0-1	0-0	1	0	1	0		
32	O'Rear	15	1-3	1-3	4	0	1	3		
43	Rodenberg	7	0-0	0-0	1	0	1	0		
Totals		200	21-44	22-33	34	6	19	71		

Denver (65)										
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP		
12	Coughlin	12	1-3	0-0	2	1	4	2		
24	Rohnert	37	3-8	8-11	10	5	3	15		
35	C. Hallam	33	1-5	0-1	2	1	2	3		
05	Stafford	29	8-10	0-0	2	1	4	20		
11	K. Lewis	21	4-6	0-0	1	1	2	10		
13	Thalken	18	1-1	0-0	1	2	3	2		
15	T. Hallam	8	0-0	0-0	2	0	2	0		
23	Chen	14	0-0	0-1	0	1	4	0		
33	Hooper	28	5-13	0-0	2	3	2	13		
Totals		200	23-46	8-13	24	15	26	65		

Halftime - UNI 23, DU 21. 3-Pt. Shooting - UNI 7-17 (Farokhmanesh 3-7, Ahelegbe 2-4, Dunham 1-1, Moran 1-4, Eglseider 0-1), DU 11-22 (Stafford 4-4, Hooper 3-6, Lewis 2-4, Rohnert 1-3, C. Hallam 1-3). Turnovers - UNI 13, DU 10. Blocks - UNI 2, DU 3. Steals - UNI 4, DU 5. Att. - 2,082.

Game 2: DePaul 60, UNI 52

Nov. 20, 2009

Paradise Jam - St. Thomas, Virgin Islands

St. Thomas, Virgin Islands – The University of Northern Iowa dropped a 60-52 contest to DePaul in the first game of the 2009 U.S. Virgin Islands Paradise Jam tournament. Senior Ali Farokhmanesh led the Panthers with 12 points.

"DePaul did a great job defensively in the second half," UNI head coach Ben Jacobson said. "They made some changes that made it hard for us to score. We didn't approach the second half any differently; we just couldn't get shots to connect."

DePaul jumped to an early 9-3 lead before Farokhmanesh drained back-to-back threes followed by career-first treys from Marc Sonnen and Anthony James, giving the Panthers a 21-13 lead with 8:17 left in the first half.

"We started slow in the first half; our offense almost seemed stagnant," Farokhmanesh said. "Then we got the inside game to open up and because of that, we could get more open looks on the perimeter as well."

UNI would build their lead to 10 in the first half after Kerwin Dunham drained a three with 4:02 left in the half.

DePaul then went on a 7-2 run to end the half, including a deep three from Mike Stovall to pull the Blue Demons within 32-27 with just over thirty seconds left before the break.

In the second half, DePaul cut the Panther lead to 34-32 off back-to-back treys by Jeremiah Kelly. Farokhmanesh added a three of his own to put UNI up 37-32 with 15:33 remaining. UNI would build their lead back to six with 10:20 left in the half when Dunham drained his second three of the contest.

However, DePaul continued to chip away at the Panther lead in the second half and eventually jumped into the lead when Mac Koshwall layed in a basket with just over four minutes to go in the contest. The Blue Demons then went on a 20-6 run to close out the half and secure the 60-52 win.

"The difference in the second half was we just couldn't finish," Farokhmanesh said. "We weren't hitting the open shots like we were in the first half."

DePaul (60)									
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
01	Stovall	29	4-10	0-0	3	0	2	9	
11	Kelly	38	5-8	5-6	8	1	1	18	
13	Koshwall	36	6-13	0-0	19	4	1	12	
25	Wallace	17	1-10	0-0	7	0	5	2	
30	Walker	39	2-11	5-7	2	3	1	9	
00	Bizoukas	10	1-1	0-0	0	1	0	3	
03	Hill	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	
10	Stula	20	2-5	0-0	1	1	5	5	
33	Faber	5	1-1	0-0	2	0	1	2	
Totals		200	22-59	10-13	44	10	16	60	

UNI (52)									
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
05	Farokhmanesh	29	4-10	0-0	0	0	3	12	
11	Ahelegbe	32	1-4	6-11	2	1	0	9	
13	Moran	28	0-7	0-0	4	1	3	0	
34	Koch, A.	25	3-8	3-4	5	2	2	9	
53	Eglseder	21	1-9	0-0	6	1	1	2	
20	Koch, J.	13	1-2	0-1	3	2	1	2	
22	Dunham	16	2-5	0-0	4	2	0	6	
23	Sonnen	9	2-2	0-0	0	0	4	5	
32	O'Rear	21	1-2	0-0	4	1	0	2	
52	James	6	2-3	0-0	1	0	1	5	
Totals		200	17-52	9-16	31	10	15	52	

Halftime – UNI 32, DU 27. 3-Pt. Shooting – DU 6-12 (Kelly 3-4, Bizoukas 1-1, Stula 1-1, Stovall 1-3, Walker 0-3), UNI 9-23 (Farokhmanesh 4-9, Dunham 2-3, Sonnen 1-1, Ahelegbe 1-2, James 1-2, Koch 0-2, Moran 0-4). Turnovers – DU 8, UNI 9. Blocks – DU 1, UNI 1. Steals – DU 7, UNI 3. Att. – 3,117.

Game 3: UNI 74, East Carolina 68

Nov. 21, 2009

Paradise Jam - St. Thomas, Virgin Islands

St. Thomas, Virgin Islands – The University of Northern Iowa men's basketball team held off a late rally by East Carolina to win 74-68 in the Panthers second game of the Paradise Jam Tournament.

Adam Koch led all scorers with 25 points on a career-best five-for-five shooting from behind the arc. Jordan Eglseder finished with a double-double chipping in 19 points and grabbing 10 boards.

"Both Jordan and Adam got off to a good start for us tonight," UNI head coach Ben Jacobson said. "They both had tough days yesterday and it was important they bounced back today. The whole team did a good job of making improvements with a short turnaround."

The Panthers jumped to an early lead off back-to-back threes from Koch. UNI built their lead to as large as 14 in the first half before heading into the halftime break up 10.

UNI extended their lead to 14 twice to start the second half with layups from Koch and Eglseder. The Panthers maintained a double-digit lead until Chris Turner drained a three to pull the Pirates within 55-47 with just over nine minutes to go.

East Carolina managed to cut the Panther lead to four with just over six minutes remaining. Eglseder extended the Panther lead back to six with layup and Koch drained two free throws to give UNI an eight point cushion with just under four minutes to play.

Jontae Sherrod slimmed the Panther lead to five with just over a minute to play but UNI sank nine of ten free throws in the final minute to secure the 74-68 win.

UNI chipped in 32 points in the paint against the Pirates in addition to 15 second-chance points.

"It was fun to get a chance to play right away again," Koch said. "Both Jordan and I had some motivation from yesterday to improve upon our game and were ready to go today. A lot of guys stepped up and played well."

East Carolina (68)									
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
01	Morrow	39	5-10	2-4	8	0	4	12	
10	Young	36	4-12	8-10	2	5	4	18	
21	Abrams	35	6-8	1-1	4	3	2	15	
24	Sherrod	29	5-11	4-4	5	1	5	15	
33	Wynn	12	1-1	1-2	1	0	3	3	
15	Turner	18	1-5	0-0	2	0	1	3	
23	Straughn	6	0-1	0-0	5	0	0	0	
42	Joyner	25	1-5	0-0	3	0	5	2	
Totals		200	23-53	16-21	33	9	24	68	

UNI (74)									
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
05	Farokhmanesh	29	2-9	3-4	2	0	0	7	
11	Ahelegbe	27	1-4	7-8	1	3	4	9	
13	Moran	25	4-10	0-1	3	4	2	9	
34	A. Koch	27	7-10	6-9	6	2	3	25	
53	Eglseder	24	7-12	5-6	10	1	2	19	
20	J. Koch	12	1-2	0-0	3	1	1	2	
22	Dunham	23	0-4	1-2	1	1	2	1	
23	Sonnen	9	0-2	0-0	1	0	0	0	
32	O'Rear	15	1-2	0-0	4	1	4	2	
43	Rodenberg	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	
52	James	8	0-1	0-0	0	0	2	0	
Totals		200	23-56	22-30	35	13	21	74	

Halftime – UNI 39, ECU 29. 3-Pt. Shooting – ECU 6-14 (Young 2-5, Abrams 2-3, Sherrod 1-4, Turner 1-2), UNI 6-23 (Koch 5-5, Moran 1-5, Farokhmanesh 0-5, Dunham 0-3, Eglseder 0-2, Sonnen 0-2, Ahelegbe 0-1). Turnovers – ECU 11, UNI 11. Blocks – ECU 0, UNI 0. Steals – ECU 5, UNI 4. Att. – 1,795.

Game 4: UNI 81, Boston College 69

Nov. 23, 2009

Paradise Jam - St. Thomas, Virgin Islands

St. Thomas, Virgin Islands – Senior guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe scored a career-high 32 points to lead the University of Northern Iowa to an 81-69 win over Boston College in the Panthers' final game of 2009 Paradise Jam Tournament.

"Our defense was the key in this win," Ahelegbe said. "We contained them in the second half which helped a lot. Our defense has gotten better with each game. If we keep improving like that it should help us continue to get wins."

The Panthers jumped to an early lead as Adam Koch and Jordan Eglseder accounted for 11 of the Panthers 13 points early points, giving UNI a 13-5 lead early in the first half.

Boston College would charge back, taking a 41-38 lead heading into the halftime break.

UNI used a 13-0 run including back-to-back pull-up jumpers from Ahelegbe and a dunk followed by trey from O'Rear to take a nine point lead with just over 11 minutes to play.

The Eagles cut the Panther lead to six with just under four minutes remaining before Ahelegbe took the game into his own hands. Ahelegbe scored nine of the Panthers final ten points to secure the win for the Panthers.

UNI had three players in double figures lead by Ahelegbe's 32 points. Koch added 14 points while Eglseder chipped in 13.

"We were all really focused in the second half," Ahelegbe said. "Lucas and Adam were getting me open off ball screens in the second half leaving BC with a mismatch on defense, which helped me get open looks and score."

The Panthers scored 50 points in the paint in addition to 14 points off turnovers.

The UNI bench scored 18 points in the game with Lucas O'Rear scoring eight points and Marc Sonnen chipping in five.

UNI (81)									
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
05	Farokhmanesh	19	1-1	0-0	1	0	4	2	
11	Ahelegbe	35	14-17	1-2	2	4	1	32	
13	Moran	16	1-3	0-0	2	1	4	2	
34	A. Koch	26	6-10	2-3	2	1	1	14	
53	Eglseder	18	6-10	1-2	5	0	4	13	
20	J. Koch	14	1-1	0-1	3	1	1	2	
22	Dunham	25	0-2	1-2	0	2	2	1	
23	Sonnen	20	2-3	0-0	1	0	2	5	
32	O'Rear	22	3-5	1-2	2	2	3	8	
52	James	5	1-2	0-0	0	0	1	2	
Totals		200	35-54	6-12	20	11	23	81	

Boston College (69)									
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
00	Jackson	35	4-9	0-1	6	4	3	8	
05	Paris	36	0-4	2-2	2	4	1	2	
11	Raji	28	7-13	4-5	5	0	3	18	
12	Trapani	36	3-7	2-3	7	2	3	11	
52	Southern	19	4-6	4-4	4	0	4	12	
21	Roche	21	2-5	4-4	2	0	1	8	
24	Ravenel	5	3-3	1-1	0	0	1	7	
30	Elmore	5	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0	
55	Dunn	15	1-2	1-1	1	0	3	3	
Totals		200	24-50	18-21	31	10	19	69	

Halftime – BC 41, UNI 38. 3-Pt. Shooting – UNI 5-9 (Ahelegbe 3-3, O'Rear 1-1, Sonnen 1-2, Moran 0-1, Koch 0-1, Eglseder 0-1), BC 3-12 (Trapani 3-3, Jackson 0-3, Raji 0-2, Roche 0-2, Elmore 0-1, Paris 0-1). Turnovers – UNI 5, BC 13. Blocks – UNI 1, BC 0. Steals – UNI 5, BC 2. Att. – 531.

Game 5: UNI 52, Northern Illinois 45

Nov. 28, 2009

McLeod Center - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa - The University of Northern Iowa men's basketball team notched a 52-45 victory over the visiting Northern Illinois Huskies in the McLeod Center.

The Panthers' defensive effort was the story of the night as they held the Huskies to 32.7 percent shooting and forced 19 turnovers.

Offensively, the Panthers overcame a scoring drought in the second half that saw the home team stuck on 29 on the scoreboard until senior guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe drained a free throw with 10:24 left on the second-half clock.

The field goal drought didn't end until senior forward Adam Koch drained a three-pointer with 7:32 left in the game that gave UNI a 34-29 advantage. Koch followed that three-pointer up with another one on the Panthers' next trip on the offensive end and it gave UNI a 37-29 with just over seven minutes to go in the ballgame.

But the Huskies refused to go away quietly and trimmed the Panther lead to three at 43-40 with 3:30 left in the game. Senior Jordan Eglseider scored in the paint in the a trio of free throws later - one from Koch and two from Ahelegbe, the Huskies would get no closer than six in the closing seconds.

Koch led the Panther scoring effort with 15 points. He was joined in double figures by Ahelegbe (13) and Farokhmanesh (11). Eglseider grabbed a game-high nine rebounds. The Panthers scored a large advantage at the free throw line by draining 16-of-27 free throws, while the Huskies made only 6-of-8 at the charity stripe.

Northern Illinois (45)

#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
01	Hall	16	1-2	0-0	2	1	5	2
25	Nixon	25	3-8	0-0	5	0	4	9
30	Fisher	13	1-1	0-0	0	0	3	2
32	Anderson	31	2-10	3-4	4	1	1	8
41	Kowal	31	2-9	1-2	7	0	4	5
00	Fakuade	17	1-2	2-2	3	0	2	4
02	Ervin	7	2-2	0-0	2	1	1	4
04	Patton	14	1-4	0-0	0	1	1	2
11	Dinuonno	24	2-8	0-0	2	1	2	5
15	Dzeplina	9	1-2	0-0	2	0	2	2
44	Storm	13	1-4	0-0	4	0	0	2
Totals		200	17-52	6-8	35	5	25	45

UNI (52)

#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Farokhmanesh	30	4-10	2-4	1	0	1	11
11	Ahelegbe	35	3-6	6-10	5	2	0	13
13	Moran	25	0-5	0-0	3	1	1	0
34	Koch, A.	28	3-7	7-10	7	0	1	15
53	Eglseider	18	4-7	0-1	9	0	2	8
20	Koch, J.	8	1-4	1-1	2	0	1	3
22	Dunham	19	0-2	0-0	3	0	1	0
23	Sonnen	10	0-3	0-0	1	1	1	0
32	O'Rear	20	1-2	0-1	2	0	0	2
43	Rodenberg	4	0-1	0-0	1	0	0	0
52	James	3	0-0	0-0	1	0	1	0
Totals		200	16-47	16-27	37	4	9	52

Halftime - UNI 29, NIU 20. 3-Pt. Shooting - NIU 5-21 (Nixon 3-6, Anderson 1-5, Dinuonno 1-5, Patton 0-3, Storm 0-2), UNI 4-17 (A. Koch 2-3, Ahelegbe 1-1, Farokhmanesh 1-6, Sonnen 0-3, Dunham 0-2, Moran 0-2). Turnovers - NIU 19, UNI 13. Blocks - NIU 1, UNI 2. Steals - NIU 7, UNI 6. Att. - 4,083.

Game 6: UNI 63, Iowa State 60

Dec. 2, 2009

Hilton Coliseum - Ames, Iowa

Ames, Iowa - The University of Northern Iowa's Adam Koch and Jordan Eglseider combined for 40 points to lead the Panthers to 63-60 victory over intra-state rival Iowa State.

Eglseider and Koch each scored 20 points for the Panthers, with Eglseider pulling down a team-high 14 rebounds for his third double-double of the season. Kwadzo Ahelegbe also scored in double-figures with 10 points, including a pair of crucial free throws in the closing seconds.

Trailing 23-16 Koch rattled off three straight baskets to pull the Panthers within 25-22. Both teams traded baskets in the following possessions, including treys from ISU's Lucca Staiger and Ali Farokhmanesh.

Eglseider scored two early baskets to start the second half and pull the Panthers within 38-35. Ahelegbe was then fouled on the ensuing Panther possession and drained both free throws to pull UNI within one at 38-37. Koch then drained a three from the top of the key to give UNI their first lead since the 16-minute mark of the first half.

ISU regained the lead off back-to-back treys with just over 12 minutes to play in the contest. ISU maintained a slim lead in the following minutes before Eglseider scored back-to-back baskets in the paint to give UNI a one-point lead with just under four minutes remaining.

ISU then took a one point lead with three minutes remaining when Craig Brackins sunk a pair of free throws. The Panthers held Brackins to just two points in the second half.

Farokhmanesh gave the Panthers the lead for good with 34.3 seconds remaining when he drained a three from the corner.

ISU's Garrett sunk one of two free throws with 15.6 seconds left to slim the Panther lead to one at 61-60. Ahelegbe drained two free throws to put the Panthers up by three with just under ten seconds remaining. ISU had one last chance to score with two seconds remaining, but Brackins' three point attempt fell well short of the basket.

UNI (63)

#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Farokhmanesh	36	3-7	0-0	4	0	1	9
11	Ahelegbe	35	3-13	4-4	4	3	3	10
13	Moran	24	1-5	0-0	3	1	1	2
34	Koch, A.	27	8-13	2-2	7	3	4	20
53	Eglseider	29	9-21	2-2	14	0	3	20
20	Koch, J.	10	0-1	2-2	1	0	0	2
22	Dunham	18	0-2	0-0	1	0	0	0
23	Sonnen	5	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0
32	O'Rear	13	0-0	0-0	2	1	2	0
43	Rodenberg	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
52	James	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
Totals		200	24-63	10-10	38	8	14	63

Iowa State (60)

#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
03	Gilstrap	25	5-8	0-0	8	1	3	11
05	Staiger	29	2-5	0-0	1	1	0	6
10	Garrett	34	6-14	1-2	3	4	3	15
21	Brackins	37	4-10	3-3	9	3	1	13
41	Hamilton	16	3-4	0-0	1	0	2	6
02	Colvin	7	2-4	0-0	1	2	1	4
04	Boozier	6	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0
11	Christopherson	24	2-5	0-0	2	1	0	5
22	Dendy	12	0-2	0-0	1	0	3	0
23	Vanderbeken	10	0-1	0-0	1	0	1	0
Totals		200	24-54	4-5	31	12	14	60

Halftime - ISU 36, UNI 31. 3-Pt. Shooting - UNI 5-17 (Farokhmanesh 3-6, A. Koch 2-4, Moran 0-2, Ahelegbe 0-1, Eglseider 0-1, J. Koch 0-1, Dunham 0-1, Sonnen 0-1), ISU 8-21 (Garrett 2-6, Staiger 2-5, Brackins 2-3, Christopherson 1-3, Gilstrap 1-2, Colvin 0-1, Vanderbeken 0-1). Turnovers - UNI 9, ISU 14. Blocks - UNI 4, ISU 4. Steals - UNI 5, ISU 3. Att. - 14,376.

Game 7: UNI 67, Iowa 50

Dec. 8, 2009

McLeod Center - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa - The University of Northern Iowa men's basketball team posted a 67-50 win over the in-state rival Iowa Hawkeyes in front of 6,480 fans in the McLeod Center.

The Panthers were led by junior point guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe's game-high 20 points on 8-of-12 shooting from the field. Seniors Adam Koch and Jordan Eglseider also reached double figures with 10 points apiece.

The Hawkeyes took a quick 6-2 lead behind three-pointers from Anthony Tucker and Matt Gatens, but the Panthers responded with a 22-1 run to seize control of the contest. In the midst of the 22-1 run was a 17-0 spurt that was capped by an Anthony James' bucket in the lane with 11:18 remaining in the first half. James' basket gave UNI a 19-6 lead.

Adam Koch tossed in a basket and sophomore Johnny Moran drained a three-pointer to cap the run to give UNI a commanding 24-7 lead with 9:04 left in the first half.

UNI eventually opened up a 17-point lead at 27-10 and 29-12 before Iowa clawed back to within 10 at 34-24 on a free throw from Cully Payne with 1:25 left in the half. Adam Koch made one of two free throws to make it 35-24 at the break.

Iowa again challenged UNI in the second half and trimmed the lead to 39-33 on a basket by Gatens, but a 9-0 run keyed by six straight points from Ahelegbe pushed the margin back to 15 at 48-33 with 13:25 left in the game.

The Hawkeyes made one more push at the Panthers after back-to-back buckets by Jarryd Cole and Tucker cut the lead to 51-43 with 8:41 left. But a 10-2 spurt by the Panthers, in which Ahelegbe scored six of the 10, gave UNI a 61-45 lead with 5:52 to go and all but ended the contest.

Another Moran three-pointer with 2:14 left gave UNI its biggest lead of the night at 20 points.

IOWA (50)

#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
01	Tucker	32	4-9	0-0	3	1	2	9
03	Payne	33	2-8	3-6	2	5	0	9
05	Gatens	39	7-11	0-2	5	2	2	18
25	May	24	3-8	0-0	3	0	4	8
50	Cole	21	1-3	0-0	6	1	3	2
15	Bawinkel	19	0-2	0-0	0	0	0	0
20	Brommer	12	0-0	0-0	1	1	4	0
24	Fuller	14	2-4	0-0	3	0	0	4
44	Coughill	6	0-1	0-0	1	0	2	0
Totals		200	19-46	3-8	30	10	17	50

UNI (67)

#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Farokhmanesh	29	2-5	0-0	3	1	0	6
11	Ahelegbe	31	8-12	3-5	4	2	2	20
13	Moran	19	2-4	0-0	1	0	2	6
34	Koch, A.	24	4-9	2-7	4	1	2	10
53	Eglseider	16	4-7	2-2	2	0	1	10
20	Koch, J.	14	0-2	1-2	0	3	1	1
22	Dunham	18	2-2	0-0	0	1	0	5
23	Sonnen	13	2-2	0-0	5	0	1	5
32	O'Rear	23	0-1	0-0	4	1	4	0
33	Pehl	1	0-0	0-0	2	0	0	0
43	Rodenberg	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
52	James	11	2-5	0-0	0	0	2	4
Totals		200	26-49	8-16	28	9	15	67

Halftime - UNI 35, UI 24. 3-Pt. Shooting - UI 9-26 (Gatens 4-6, May 2-6, Payne 2-6, Tucker 1-6, Bawinkel 0-2), UNI 7-16 (Farokhmanesh 2-4, Moran 2-4, Dunham 1-1, Sonnen 1-1, Ahelegbe 1-2, A. Koch 0-2, J. Koch 0-2). Turnovers - UI 16, UNI 5. Blocks - UI 1, UNI 0. Steals - UI 2, UNI 6. Att. - 6,480.

Game 8: UNI 82, Siena 65

Dec. 12, 2009

McLeod Center - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa – UNI ran its win streak to six in a row with an impressive 82-65 victory over Siena.

All five Panther starters reached double figures in scoring. Leading the way was senior guard Ali Farokhmanesh with 15 points. Senior guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe and senior center Jordan Eglseider each tossed in 14, while both senior forward Adam Koch and sophomore guard Johnny Moran accounted for 12 points. The Panther bench outscored the Saints' bench by the count of 15-4, including a 6-point, 8-rebound effort from junior forward Lucas O'Rear.

Siena bounced out to a 7-2 lead but a 10-3 run from UNI gave the Panthers their first lead of the game at 12-10 on a three-pointer by Ahelegbe with 14:05 to play in the first stanza. The lead then seesawed over the next four minutes before another run by the Panthers gave the home crowd a chance to rise to their feet. UNI trailed 18-17 after a bucket by Siena's Ronald Moore but then responded with a 12-2 run that was started by a three-pointer from redshirt freshman Anthony James out of the left corner. The run was capped by a Kerwin Dunham-free throw to give UNI a 29-29 lead with 6:12 to play until halftime.

The visitors took their first lead of the second half at 37-36 on a conventional three-point play by Alex Franklin with 17:28 left in the game. Farokhmanesh answered the Saints' threat by draining all three free throws after being fouled on a three-point shot with 17:19 left. Siena regained the lead at 40-39 on a free throw by O.D. Anosike, but again the Panthers responded as Moran buried a 3-pointer and Ahelegbe scored a layup to put UNI on top 44-40 with 15:41 left.

The Panthers were able to put the Saints away with a decisive 15-3 run from the 8:33 mark until the 5:58 mark of the second half. Included in the run was an 8-0 spurt that saw four of the starters contribute with points of their own. Eglseider hit two free throws, Ahelegbe hit a shot, Moran drained a pull-up jumper and Adam Koch slashed in for a layup in the 8-0 mini-run. Siena got no closer than 13 the rest of the way.

Siena (65)									
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
13	Jackson	24	3-7	0-0	2	1	4	7	
22	Rossiter	24	2-4	0-1	11	1	5	4	
23	Ubbles	34	9-19	1-2	3	2	2	19	
25	Moore	37	5-12	3-8	3	5	0	16	
42	Franklin	39	6-8	3-5	4	1	4	15	
01	Anosike	17	0-2	2-6	6	0	3	2	
02	Yard	3	0-1	0-0	1	0	0	0	
03	Downey	16	1-4	0-1	0	0	1	2	
31	Wignot	6	0-1	0-0	0	0	1	0	
Totals		200	26-58	9-23	34	10	20	65	

UNI (82)									
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
05	Farokhmanesh	31	3-6	6-7	2	4	2	15	
11	Ahelegbe	26	5-12	2-5	3	4	3	14	
13	Moran	31	5-8	0-0	5	1	2	12	
34	Koch, A.	24	5-11	2-2	4	3	4	12	
53	Eglseider	19	6-7	2-3	9	0	3	14	
20	Koch, J.	14	1-2	0-0	2	0	2	2	
22	Dunham	16	1-3	1-2	1	2	2	4	
23	Sonnen	10	0-1	0-0	1	2	1	0	
32	O'Rear	22	2-3	2-5	8	3	1	6	
52	James	7	1-2	0-0	0	0	0	3	
Totals		200	29-55	15-24	40	19	20	82	

Halftime – UNI 33, SIENA 30. 3-Pt. Shooting – SIENA 4-11 (Moore 3-3, Jackson 1-4, Ubbles 0-3, Downey 0-1), UNI 9-16 (Farokhmanesh 3-4, Moran 2-5, Ahelegbe 2-3, Dunham 1-1, James 1-1, Sonnen 0-1, J. Koch 0-1). Turnovers – SIENA 9, UNI 13. Blocks – SIENA 1, UNI 1. Steals – SIENA 6, UNI 5. Att. – 5,096.

Game 9: UNI 64, North Dakota 41

Dec. 19, 2009

Engelstead Sioux Center - Grand Forks, N.D.

Grand Forks, N.D. – The University of Northern Iowa knocked down 14 3-pointers and tallied a 64-41 road victory over North Dakota.

The Panthers' 3-point effort was led by freshman Marc Sonnen, who dropped in seven triples on eight attempts scored a career-high 21 points.

The Panthers jumped out to a 7-0 lead on the Sioux behind a three-pointer by Ali Farokhmanesh, a pair of free throws from Adam Koch and a putback by Jordan Eglseider. However, the Sioux responded with a pair of three-pointers by Travis Bledsoe and Derek Benter to narrow the lead to one, 7-6.

The Sioux eventually took their only lead of the game at 11-10 on a triple by Patrick Mitchell with 13:07 to play in the first half.

UNI would respond with Sonnen's first three of the game that led to a 10-2 run and gave the Panthers a 21-13 lead with nine minutes to play in the half.

The Panther defense was stifling in the latter part of the first half as UND was unable to score a field in the final 7:10. UND's only points in the final 7:10 of the half came on two free throws from Travis Mertens with 13 seconds left in the half. UNI finished the half on a 13-2 run that included three more triples from Sonnen.

Sonnen finished the first half with 12 points that helped the Panthers earn a 34-20 advantage at the intermission. The Panthers drained seven three-pointers in the first 20 minutes.

The Panthers' three-point assault continued in the second half as they drained seven more from long range. Kwadzo Ahelegbe made the first three-pointer of the second half and Kerwin Dunham soon followed at the 14:20 mark. Sonnen's first triple of the second half gave UNI a 48-29 lead with 12:32 to play.

Sonnen would knock down two more threes to end the second half with three triples.

UNI (64)									
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
05	Farokhmanesh	23	3-5	2-2	0	1	1	11	
11	Ahelegbe	25	1-3	2-2	7	5	0	5	
13	Moran	19	2-8	1-2	0	1	1	6	
34	Koch, A.	17	1-4	6-6	3	0	1	9	
53	Eglseider	17	1-2	0-0	4	0	0	2	
10	Haak	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	
20	Koch, J.	20	0-1	1-2	1	2	1	1	
22	Dunham	22	1-4	1-2	0	5	1	4	
23	Sonnen	19	7-9	0-0	4	0	4	21	
32	O'Rear	17	1-1	0-0	2	1	1	2	
33	Pehl	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	
43	Rodenberg	5	0-0	0-0	2	0	2	0	
52	James	10	1-2	1-3	1	0	1	3	
Totals		200	18-39	14-19	29	15	14	64	

North Dakota (41)									
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
02	Haugen	25	0-2	0-0	2	0	0	0	
13	Bledsoe	26	3-8	1-2	0	4	4	8	
15	Mertens	24	2-6	4-4	5	4	1	8	
44	Benter	23	2-5	0-0	0	2	3	5	
45	Mitchell	30	2-5	0-0	4	0	2	6	
10	Monsebroten	11	0-1	2-2	0	0	0	2	
12	Allard	4	0-2	0-0	0	0	2	0	
22	Wilmer	9	1-1	0-0	0	0	0	2	
23	Goodman	15	0-3	0-2	2	1	2	0	
31	Clausen	22	4-4	0-0	2	0	2	10	
32	Schuler	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	
33	Archer	8	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0	
Totals		200	14-37	7-10	17	11	17	41	

Halftime – UNI 34, UND 20. 3-Pt. Shooting – UNI 14-26 (Sonnen 7-8, Farokhmanesh 3-5, A. Koch 1-1, Ahelegbe 1-2, Dunham 1-4, Moran 1-5, James 0-1), UND 6-15 (Clausen 2-2, Mitchell 2-5, Benter 1-2, Bledsoe 1-5, Haugen 0-1). Turnovers – UNI 20, UND 16. Blocks – UNI 5, UND 3. Steals – UNI 10, UND 4. Att. – 1,961.

Game 10: UNI 72, Wyoming 54

Dec. 23, 2009

McLeod Center - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa – The University of Northern Iowa men's basketball team continued its winning ways with a 72-54 victory over Wyoming.

UNI (9-1 overall) used a 28-point effort from senior Jordan Eglseider and 15 second-half points from senior Ali Farokhmanesh to turn a 34-33 half-time lead into the 18-point victory margin. Wyoming fell to 6-6 on the season.

The Panthers started strong with a 7-0 burst out of the gates, but Wyoming responded with a 9-0 run as the Cowboys hit the home squad with full-court pressure. Wyoming continued its stifling defense and eventually built a 27-18 lead after a jumper by J.J. Davis at the 7:24 mark of the first half.

But the Panthers turned it up a notch and poured in 11 straight to take a 29-27 lead with 3:53 remaining before intermission. The final bucket of the run came on a 3-point basket from Kerwin Dunham on an assist from Kwadzo Ahelegbe. The squads then played a nip-and-tuck affair until half-time as the Panthers took a 34-33 lead after 20 minutes of action.

UNI would not trail in the second half and kept Wyoming at bay as the Panthers opened an eight-point lead on a pair of free throws from Eglseider at the 14:23 mark. Wyoming would trim the margin to four at 48-44 on a jumper from Afam Muojeke. From that point, the Panthers locked down the defensive side of the ball and Farokhmanesh made a pair of triples to up the lead to 10 at 58-48 with 7:48 to go.

The Panthers would eventually push the lead to 18 on a final 3-pointer from Farokhmanesh with 2:04 remaining in the game.

UNI held Wyoming to 21 points in the second half and 54 in the game. The Cowboys came into the game averaging 78.8 points per game.

WYOMING (54)									
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
01	Luster	19	1-7	0-0	3	0	4	3	
11	Mujojeke	36	8-13	3-4	5	1	2	20	
25	Thiam	21	1-4	0-0	5	0	1	2	
33	Sylla	18	1-3	0-0	1	0	2	2	
51	Davis	22	3-4	3-4	2	1	1	9	
03	Jackson	23	5-10	2-2	1	0	2	12	
05	Dermody	18	0-1	0-0	1	1	0	0	
15	Waddell	22	2-2	2-2	7	0	1	6	
22	M'Baye	19	0-2	0-0	2	0	4	0	
35	Harrison	2	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	
Totals		200	21-46	10-12	30	3	17	54	

UNI (72)									
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
05	Farokhmanesh	26	5-8	0-0	1	1	1	15	
11	Ahelegbe	34	3-9	2-3	3	1	1	8	
13	Moran	24	1-6	0-0	5	2	2	3	
34	Koch, A.	21	3-11	0-0	4	0	1	6	
53	Eglseider	32	10-15	7-9	9	3	2	28	
20	Koch, J.	3	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	
22	Dunham	27	4-6	0-1	1	1	3	10	
23	Sonnen	8	0-2	0-0	1	0	0	0	
32	O'Rear	25	1-3	0-0	4	4	0	2	
Totals		200	27-60	9-13	31	12	10	72	

Halftime – UNI 34, WYO 33. 3-Pt. Shooting – WYO 2-15 (Mujojeke 1-4, Luster 1-6, Jackson 0-2, Thiam 0-1, Davis 0-1, M'Baye 0-1), UNI 9-22 (Farokhmanesh 5-7, Dunham 2-4, Eglseider 1-1, Moran 1-5, A. Koch 0-2, Sonnen 0-2, Ahelegbe 0-1). Turnovers – WYO 17, UNI 12. Blocks – WYO 6, UNI 0. Steals – WYO 5, UNI 7. Att. – 3,102.

Game 11: UNI 60, Creighton 52

Dec. 29, 2009

Qwest Center - Omaha, Neb.

Omaha, Neb. – The University of Northern Iowa nabbed a road conference-opening victory with a 60-52 triumph over the Creighton Bluejays. UNI ran its win streak to nine in a row and moved to 10-1 on the year.

Ali Farokhmanesh led the scoring attack with 15 points. He was joined in double figures by Kwadzo Ahelegbe with 12 points and Jordan Eglseider with 11 points.

UNI jumped out early on the Bluejays taking a 16-4 lead with 9:29 left in the first half. The early run was capped off by an Adam Koch 3-pointer. A fast-break layup by Johnny Moran upped the margin back to 12 at 18-6 as the Panthers held the Bluejays to two made field goals in the game's first 14:29.

A pair of free throws by Ahelegbe gave UNI its final 12-point lead of the night at 23-11 with 4:15 left before intermission. From that point forward, Creighton trimmed the lead to seven at the half with a 7-2 run.

Creighton kept momentum on its side in the second half and eventually took a 41-37 lead after a 3-pointer from Cavell Witter with 9:10 remaining in the game.

However, the Panther refused to give in to the Bluejays or their crowd of 17,152. UNI responded with a 14-3 run and turned it into a 51-44 advantage with 4:33 left in the game. The Panthers' run was keyed by a Farokhmanesh runner in the lane, a left-handed floater from Kerwin Dunham, a full-court drive for a layup by Lucas O'Rear and a bucket in the paint by Eglseider.

Eglseider buried another jumper in the lane to up the lead back to seven at 53-46 with 2:19 remaining. Creighton eventually trimmed the lead to three points at 55-52 on a layup by Antoine Young with 58 ticks left to give them hope.

But the Panthers drained 5-of-6 from the free throw line in the final minute to salt away the road win - UNI's second-straight win in the Qwest Center.

UNI (60)									
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
05	Farokhmanesh	31	4-11	4-4	1	1	3	15	
11	Ahelegbe	31	3-13	6-6	4	4	2	12	
13	Moran	31	1-6	1-2	8	2	1	3	
34	Koch, A.	21	2-8	3-3	8	0	5	8	
53	Eglseider	20	4-5	3-4	4	2	3	11	
20	Koch, J.	15	0-1	0-0	4	1	1	0	
22	Dunham	18	1-2	0-0	2	0	1	2	
23	Sonnen	6	1-3	0-0	0	0	0	3	
32	O'Rear	24	2-2	2-2	6	1	3	6	
52	James	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	
Totals		200	18-51	19-21	38	11	19	60	

Creighton (52)									
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
01	Carter	16	0-5	0-0	3	0	2	0	
10	Stinnett	28	1-8	0-1	6	3	1	3	
24	Ashford	24	1-3	3-4	2	0	4	6	
25	Lawson Jr.	19	1-4	4-4	5	0	3	6	
30	Young	32	4-10	0-3	3	3	1	8	
03	Witter	25	6-10	0-0	0	0	2	17	
12	Bock	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	
15	Korver	9	0-1	0-0	2	1	0	0	
23	Runnels	21	4-8	0-1	6	0	3	8	
32	Harriman	17	0-0	4-5	1	1	2	4	
34	Wragge	7	0-1	0-0	1	0	0	0	
Totals		200	17-50	11-18	31	8	18	52	

Halftime – UNI 25, CU 18. 3-Pt. Shooting – UNI 5-19 (Farokhmanesh 3-8, Sonnen 1-2, A. Koch 1-3, Moran 0-4, Ahelegbe 0-1, Dunham 0-1), CU 7-19 (Witter 5-6, Ashford 1-3, Stinnett 1-4, Carter 0-2, Young 0-2, Wragge 0-1, Korver 0-1). Turnovers – UNI 8, CU 10. Blocks – UNI 1, CU 1. Steals – UNI 4, CU 1. Att. – 17,152.

Game 12: UNI 65, Evansville 46

Jan. 1, 2010

McLeod Center - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa – UNI moved its win streak to 10 in a row following a 65-46 defensive shut down of the Evansville Purple Aces.

The Purple Aces held a 33-31 halftime advantage, but a suffocating defensive effort in the second half helped the Panthers to the win.

The Panthers outscored the Purple Aces in the second half, 34-13. In fact, the Purple Aces had managed to score only eight points in the second half with under three minutes left in the game.

The game had all the makings of a Panther blowout early as the home squad jumped all over the Purple Aces with a 10-0 spurt three minutes into the game. A Troy Taylor free throw got the Purple Aces on the board with 16:06 on the clock, but UNI redshirt freshman Jake Koch buried his first three-pointer of the season to put UNI on top with 14:40 to go in the first half, 14-1.

But Evansville settled in and came up a with a run of its own - 19-2 to be exact. The Purple Aces took a 20-16 lead after a jumper from Holmes went down with 8:40 to go in the half.

The lead then changed hands six times in the final eight minutes of the first half before the Purple Aces took a five-point lead at 33-28 with 1:15 to go on a bucket by Pieter van Tongeren.

UNI's Kwadzo Ahelegbe drained a three-pointer in the closing seconds of the half to pull the Panthers to within two at the break, 33-31.

UNI then put on a defensive show in the final 20 minutes. Evansville made 5-of-22 second-half shots after burying 51.9 percent of their shots in the first half.

UNI began the second half with a 21-4 run. Panther senior center Jordan Eglseider's dunk keyed a 12-0 mini-run that turned a 40-37 lead into a 52-37 advantage.

The Panthers then extended the lead to as much as 24 points after a Kerwin Dunham runner gave UNI a 65-41 lead with 4:05 remaining in the game.

Evansville (46)									
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
05	Taylor	20	2-4	1-3	4	0	1	5	
11	Ryan	29	0-4	0-0	3	1	3	0	
34	Holmes	35	7-16	2-2	1	1	3	17	
41	van Tongeren	26	1-4	1-2	2	0	4	3	
52	Hopf	29	2-9	0-0	3	0	2	4	
04	Jones	6	2-2	0-0	3	0	2	4	
10	Hudson	18	2-5	0-0	0	1	0	6	
22	Cox	18	1-3	0-2	2	2	2	2	
45	Bouchie	19	2-2	1-1	4	0	0	5	
Totals		200	19-49	5-10	23	5	17	46	

UNI (65)									
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
05	Farokhmanesh	25	1-2	0-0	1	0	0	3	
11	Ahelegbe	27	3-7	0-0	2	0	2	7	
13	Moran	24	4-7	5-5	5	0	1	15	
34	Koch, A.	23	4-8	7-7	2	3	3	16	
53	Eglseider	18	3-7	0-0	9	0	2	6	
10	Haak	3	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	
20	Koch, J.	15	2-3	0-0	6	0	0	6	
22	Dunham	18	2-4	4-4	0	3	0	8	
23	Sonnen	14	1-4	0-0	5	0	2	2	
32	O'Rear	17	1-4	0-0	2	2	1	2	
33	Pehl	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	
43	Rodenberg	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	2	0	
52	James	11	0-2	0-0	0	0	0	0	
Totals		200	21-48	16-16	35	8	13	65	

Halftime – UE 33, UNI 31. 3-Pt. Shooting – UE 3-11 (Hudson 2-4, Holmes 1-6, Cox 0-1), UNI 7-17 (J. Koch 2-3, Moran 2-4, Ahelegbe 1-1, Farokhmanesh 1-2, A. Koch 1-3, Eglseider 0-1, James 0-1). Turnovers – UE 10, UNI 13. Blocks – UE 0, UNI 3. Steals – UE 4, UNI 6. Att. – 4,450.

Game 13: UNI 84, Missouri State 76

Jan. 3, 2010

McLeod Center - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa – UNI improved to 12-1 and extended the nation's fifth-longest win streak to 11 in a row with an 84-76 win over Missouri State.

UNI senior center Jordan Eglseider posted game-highs with 22 points and 13 rebounds, while senior forward Adam Koch chipped in 18 points on 6-of-8 shooting from the field. Missouri State saw four players reach double figures with Jermaine Mallett leading the way with 13 points.

The Panthers trailed by as many as seven points in the first half as the Bears posted a 14-7 advantage. But the Panther bench stepped up and rallied the Panthers to a 20-20 tie on the strength of two 3-pointers by Jake Koch and a triple by Anthony James. James' 3-pointer knotted the game at 20-20 with 7:55 to go in the first half.

Senior point guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe drove for a layup and senior guard Ali Farokhmanesh dropped in a bucket to finish off a 9-2 run that gave the Panthers a 26-22 lead with 5:07 left in the half. Missouri State battled back and took a 34-32 lead with 52 seconds left on a conventional 3-point play from Caleb Patterson. But after a pair of missed shots, Kerwin Dunham drove the length of the floor and knotted the game at 34-34 on a layup right before the halftime buzzer.

The squads settled into an old fashioned Missouri Valley Conference battle in the second half that saw UNI make 15-of-17 free throws, while Missouri State made 16-of-20 from the charity stripe.

Back-to-back three-pointers from Dunham and Farokhmanesh gave the Panthers a 46-43 lead with 15:27 in the game. But Missouri State failed to yield and stormed back to take a 61-57 lead with 7:58 to go on a shot by Justin Fuehrmeyer.

The Panthers took control of the game after the 8-minute media timeout. UNI went on a 14-2 run that included three-pointers from Farokhmanesh and Moran.

UNI drained its final 10 free throws of the game and eventually pushed the lead to 84-72 in the final minute.

Missouri State (76)									
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
01	Pickens	14	1-2	0-0	2	0	2	3	
10	Leonard	35	3-9	3-4	4	2	1	12	
15	Mallett	35	4-5	3-4	3	1	3	13	
34	Weems	34	3-14	4-5	9	3	4	11	
44	Creekmore	21	4-6	4-4	1	0	3	12	
00	Fuehrmeyer	16	2-2	0-0	1	2	5	5	
02	Ricks	13	2-4	4-4	2	2	2	8	
21	Patterson	18	3-4	2-4	0	2	1	8	
30	Jehle	4	0-0	0-0	1	0	1	0	
33	Jones	9	1-1	0-0	1	0	1	2	
50	Rhine	1	0-0	2-2	0	0	0	2	
Totals		200	23-47	22-27	27	12	23	76	

UNI (84)									
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
05	Farokhmanesh	35	4-8	2-2	0	1	3	13	
11	Ahelegbe	21	2-9	0-0	0	1	1	4	
13	Moran	25	3-4	2-2	3	1	3	9	
34	Koch, A.	25	6-8	5-7	5	3	2	18	
53	Eglseider	29	8-14	6-6	13	0	2	22	
20	Koch, J.	8	2-3	0-0	1	0	1	6	
22	Dunham	28	2-3	2-2	0	2	1	7	
23	Sonnen	8	0-1	0-0	2	1	2	0	
32	O'Rear	18	0-1	2-2	3	3	4	2	
52	James	3	1-2	0-0	0	0	1	3	
Totals		200	28-53	19-21	28	12	20	84	

Halftime – UNI 34, MSU 34. 3-Pt. Shooting – MSU 8-18 (Leonard 3-8, Mallett 2-3, Fuehrmeyer 1-1, Pickens 1-1, Weems 1-4, Ricks 0-1), UNI 9-17 (Farokhmanesh 3-6, J. Koch 2-3, A. Koch 1-1, James 1-1, Moran 1-2, Dunham 1-2, Ahelegbe 0-2). Turnovers – MSU 10, UNI 8. Blocks – MSU 3, UNI 1. Steals – MSU 4, UNI 7. Att. – 4,666.

Game 14: UNI 61, Southern Illinois 49
Jan. 6, 2010
SIU Arena - Carbondale, Ill.

Carbondale, Ill. – The University of Northern Iowa men's basketball team rolled past the Southern Illinois Salukis in a nationally-televised contest on ESPN2, 61-49.

The Panthers ran their win streak to 12 in a row and moved to 13-1 overall on the season. The victory also upped the Panthers Missouri Valley Conference record to 4-0. SIU fell to 9-4 overall and 2-2 in the MVC.

Senior center Jordan Eglseider led all scorers with 17 points. Eglseider also added 14 rebounds for his fifth double-double of the season. UNI led by as many as 25 points in the game.

The Panthers burst out of the gates quickly with a 9-0 spurt to begin the game. A trio of free throws by Johnny Moran gave the Panthers a double-digit advantage at 12-2 with 15:35 left in the first half. SIU would trim the lead to nine at 12-3 on a free throw by Nick Evans. UNI's Ali Farokhmanesh drained a triple on the Panthers' next possession and the Panthers never led by fewer than double digits the rest of the way.

UNI built the lead to 18 at 30-12 on a layup from Eglseider at the 5:53 mark of the first half. SIU's Kevin Dillard hit a jumper in the paint to trim the margin to 12 at 32-20, but a pair of baskets by Eglseider and Kwadzo Ahelegbe to close the half pushed the lead back to 16 at the intermission.

The Salukis climbed to within 36-25 in the first minute of the second half, but the Panthers responded with a 13-2 run to open up a 22-point lead. Freshman Marc Sonnen drilled a 3-pointer with 11:45 to go in the second half to give the Panthers a 49-27 lead.

The Panthers kept attacking and opened up a 57-32 lead with 6:56 to go after a dunk from Lucas O'Rear. The Salukis did not give up and finished the game on a 17-4 run to make the final margin, 61-49.

UNI (61)									
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
05	Farokhmanesh	30	1-9	0-0	0	1	0	3	
11	Ahelegbe	28	2-6	3-6	2	3	3	7	
13	Moran	28	2-8	5-5	3	1	0	11	
34	Koch, A.	28	3-4	4-5	5	3	3	11	
53	Eglseider	26	7-15	3-6	14	1	2	17	
20	Koch, J.	11	0-0	0-0	2	2	3	0	
22	Dunham	23	1-1	0-0	2	1	1	3	
23	Sonnen	9	1-3	0-0	1	0	2	3	
32	O'Rear	15	2-3	2-3	4	1	2	6	
52	James	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	
Totals		200	19-49	17-25	39	13	16	61	

Southern Illinois (49)									
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
02	Brown-Surles	20	2-7	0-0	1	3	2	5	
11	Freeman, T.	31	5-8	0-0	3	2	1	13	
23	Boicot	19	0-5	0-2	4	2	1	0	
45	Fay	27	2-8	2-2	4	0	2	6	
55	Evans	15	2-6	2-4	4	0	3	6	
01	Dillard	23	1-5	4-8	6	2	1	6	
15	Crowder	7	0-1	0-0	2	0	0	0	
21	Teague	20	2-2	0-0	4	0	4	4	
22	Booker	18	3-8	1-1	3	1	4	7	
34	Freeman, J.	20	1-2	0-0	0	0	1	2	
Totals		200	18-52	9-17	31	10	19	49	

Halftime – UNI 36, SIU 20. 3-Pt. Shooting – UNI 6-17 (Moran 2-6, Dunham 1-1, Sonnen 1-2, A. Koch 1-2, Farokhmanesh 1-6), SIU 4-14 (T. Freeman 3-4, Brown-Surles 1-4, Fay 0-2, Boicot 0-2, Dillard 0-1, Crowder 0-1). Turnovers – UNI 8, SIU 6. Blocks – UNI 3, SIU 4. Steals – UNI 4, SIU 5. Att. – 4,679.

Game 15: UNI 59, Illinois State 44
Jan. 9, 2010
Redbird Arena - Normal, Ill.

Normal, Ill. – The University of Northern Iowa men's basketball team tallied a 59-44 road victory over Missouri Valley Conference foe Illinois State on Saturday in front of a national ESPN2 audience.

Illinois State took a 13-12 lead after a basket by Austin Hill at the 12:07 mark of the first half. Then the Panthers held the Redbirds scoreless over the next 3:24 to open up an 18-13 lead over the Redbirds. A 3-pointer by the Redbirds' Lloyd Phillips trimmed the margin to 18-16 with 8:43 before intermission.

But the Panthers responded with a 9-0 run that included a 3-pointer from Adam Koch and three baskets in the paint from Eglseider. The Panthers held the Redbirds to only two made baskets in the final eight minutes of the first half.

Eglseider paced the Panthers in the first half with 12 points, on 6-of-8 shooting, and five rebounds.

The Redbird crowd tried to get the home squad back in the game early in the second half. Illinois State used the momentum to cut the Panther lead to nine at 37-28 on a jumper in the lane by Dinma Odiakosa with 15:56 left.

Back-to-back layups by junior forward Lucas O'Rear gave UNI a 42-30 advantage with 11:49 to play in the game. UNI did not allow a Redbird basket from the 13:18 mark to the 5:57 mark of the second half and extended the Panther lead to 50-31 after a jumper by Ahelegbe.

Illinois State climbed to within nine points on a 3-pointer by Osiris Eldridge with 1:15 remaining, but the Redbirds would get no closer and the Panthers sunk all six free throws the rest of the way for a 59-44 margin.

UNI (59)									
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
05	Farokhmanesh	32	0-2	0-0	1	0	0	0	
11	Ahelegbe	30	3-12	6-8	1	4	1	13	
13	Moran	31	2-5	2-2	6	1	0	7	
34	Koch, A.	24	4-6	5-6	3	2	2	15	
53	Eglseider	25	8-13	0-0	8	0	1	16	
20	Koch, J.	11	2-4	0-0	1	0	1	4	
22	Dunham	18	0-1	0-0	0	2	2	0	
23	Sonnen	8	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0	
32	O'Rear	18	2-3	0-0	5	1	0	4	
52	James	3	0-1	0-0	0	0	1	0	
Totals		200	21-47	13-16	31	10	8	59	

Illinois State (44)									
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
00	Eldridge	36	4-14	0-0	2	2	3	10	
03	Rubin	34	4-6	1-2	0	3	1	13	
12	Phillips	35	1-6	0-0	3	6	2	3	
32	Carmichael	22	2-6	0-0	4	0	3	4	
42	Odiakosa	33	5-12	0-2	14	0	3	10	
10	Johnson	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	
13	Hill	15	2-3	0-0	2	0	2	4	
21	Thornton	16	0-1	0-0	3	0	0	0	
33	Clark	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	
34	Lewis	5	0-0	0-2	0	0	0	0	
Totals		200	18-48	1-6	28	11	14	44	

Halftime – UNI 32, ILS 20. 3-Pt. Shooting – UNI 4-15 (A. Koch 2-3, Moran 1-3, Ahelegbe 1-5, J. Koch 0-1, Dunham 0-1, James 0-1, Farokhmanesh 0-1), ILS 7-16 (Rubin 4-5, Eldridge 2-6, Phillips 1-3, Hill 0-1, Thornton 0-1). Turnovers – UNI 10, ILS 15. Blocks – UNI 0, ILS 3. Steals – UNI 10, SIU 6. Att. – 7,755.

Game 16: UNI 52, Bradley 50
Jan. 12, 2010
McLeod Center - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa – The University of Northern Iowa men's basketball squad squeezed past the Bradley Braves, 52-50. UNI moved its win streak to 14 in a row with the triumph.

UNI took a 20-17 lead on third triple of the half from Ali Farokhmanesh with 5:25 before intermission before Bradley mounted a surge of its own. The Braves ran off eight straight points and took its largest lead of the night at 25-20 with 1:48 left in the half. The Panthers failed to score a field goal from the 5:25 mark until only 49 seconds remained in the half. Bradley took a 27-26 lead into the half following a basket by Sam Maniscalco.

A Farokhmanesh three-pointer and an Adam Koch dunk gave the Panthers a six-point bulge with 14:56 remaining. A breakaway dunk by Bradley's Andrew Warren sliced the lead to three at 38-35 and quiet the McLeod Center crowd. But a 7-0 Panther run that included a pair of buckets from Lucas O'Rear and a rare two-point field goal by Farokhmanesh moved the margin to 10 with 10:45 remaining.

The Braves would not go quietly and knocked the lead down to one on two occasions in the final 2:30 of the contest. Chris Roberts drained a shot to make it 49-48 in favor of the Panthers with 2:22 remaining, but UNI's Kwadzo Ahelegbe moved it back to a three-point lead on a jumper in the lane with 30.7 ticks left.

Bradley's Maniscalco knocked down a jumper with 22.5 seconds left to bring the Braves back to within one point. Ahelegbe then hit the front end of a 1-and-1 and missed on the back end for a two-point lead at 52-50. UNI head coach Ben Jacobson then instructed his team to foul since the Panthers had committed only three fouls in the half.

Farokhmanesh fouled Maniscalco on three occasions in the final 20 seconds, the last coming with 0.6 seconds on the clock. Bradley then attempted an in-bounds pass toward the rim but the Panthers knocked it away and hung on for the 52-50 victory.

Bradley (50)									
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
03	Brown	26	2-8	0-0	4	1	4	4	
05	Maniscalco	35	6-11	0-0	5	1	1	15	
21	Egolf	21	2-8	0-0	9	0	4	4	
23	Roberts	24	4-7	0-0	0	1	2	11	
24	Warren	38	3-11	2-2	8	4	0	10	
04	Eastman	14	0-3	1-2	2	0	0	1	
32	Simms-Edwards	23	1-3	0-0	3	3	3	2	
54	Singh	19	1-2	1-2	5	0	3	3	
Totals		200	19-53	4-6	36	10	17	50	

UNI (52)									
#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP	
05	Farokhmanesh	32	5-9	0-0	0	1	3	14	
11	Ahelegbe	31	3-10	3-4	1	3	1	9	
13	Moran	34	0-3	0-0	5	5	1	0	
34	Koch, A.	31	2-9	4-4	2	1	0	8	
53	Eglseider	19	5-7	1-1	10	0	1	11	
20	Koch, J.	8	0-0	0-0	2	0	2	0	
22	Dunham	18	1-2	0-1	3	0	0	2	
23	Sonnen	4	0-1	0-0	1	0	0	0	
32	O'Rear	20	3-6	2-3	3	0	3	8	
52	James	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	
Totals		200	19-47	10-13	29	10	11	52	

Halftime – BU 27, UNI 26. 3-Pt. Shooting – BU 8-19 (Roberts 3-4, Maniscalco 3-5, Warren 2-5, Taylor 0-3, Eastman 0-1, Simms-Edwards 0-1), UNI 4-15 (Farokhmanesh 4-7, Moran 0-3, Ahelegbe 0-2, A. Koch 0-1, Dunham 0-1, Sonnen 0-1). Turnovers – BU 20, UNI 20. Blocks – BU 1, UNI 3. Steals – BU 9, UNI 10. Att. – 4,892.

Game 17: UNI 62, Indiana State 40

Jan. 16, 2010

McLeod Center - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa – The University of Northern Iowa men's basketball team won its 15th-straight game Saturday with a 62-40 win over the Indiana State Sycamores in front of a sellout crowd of 6,778 in the McLeod Center.

The Panthers (16-1 overall, 7-0 MVC) limited the Sycamores (11-7 overall, 3-4 MVC) to 16 percent shooting in the second half and increased their lead in the Missouri Valley Conference to a two-game bulge after seven games.

UNI had four players reach double figures in scoring led by senior Adam Koch with 13 points. Koch's 13 points give him 1,000 career points and he becomes the 31st Panther in the history of the program to reach the 1,000-point mark. Starters Kwadzo Ahelegbe and Johnny Moran tallied 11 points, while Lucas O'Rear contributed 10 points on 5-of-7 shooting from the floor.

Indiana State held a 15-12 lead following a three-pointer from Rashad Reed with 11:07 left in the first half. But the Panthers then went on a 10-2 run to take a 22-17 lead on a basket by O'Rear with 6:21 left in the half.

UNI closed the half on a 19-5 run, following a 17-17 tie with 9:05 to go before intermission. The Panthers then scored the first six points of the second half to complete the 25-5. The final bucket in the run was Koch's, which brought him to the 1,000-point mark.

The Panthers eventually posted a 27-point advantage at 57-30 and 59-32 in the second half, while the Sycamores continued to fire blanks. Indiana State made only 4-of-25 shots in the second stanza.

Indiana State (40)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
00	Leitnaker	11	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
03	Reed	29	2-9	2-3	3	0	1	8
23	Marshall	35	5-10	0-0	1	0	3	11
24	Printy	33	0-5	1-2	1	1	0	1
34	Richard	32	0-5	2-2	8	0	3	2
01	Doluony	5	1-2	2-2	1	0	1	4
05	Crawford	22	3-5	0-0	5	0	3	6
21	Martin	8	0-2	1-2	1	0	2	1
32	Carter	25	1-6	5-8	4	1	2	7
Totals		200	12-44	13-19	27	2	15	40

UNI (62)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Farokhmanesh	26	2-5	0-0	2	0	2	5
11	Ahelegbe	28	5-11	0-0	3	1	1	11
13	Moran	23	4-6	1-2	1	2	2	11
34	Koch, A.	23	5-6	3-3	6	2	2	13
53	Eglseder	11	2-5	0-0	6	0	2	4
10	Haak	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
20	Koch, J.	16	2-3	1-2	3	3	3	5
22	Dunham	20	0-5	0-0	1	1	2	0
23	Sonnen	17	1-2	0-0	2	0	0	3
32	O'Rear	26	5-7	0-2	7	1	3	10
33	Pehl	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
43	Rodenberg	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
52	James	5	0-3	0-0	0	0	0	0
Totals		200	26-53	5-9	37	10	17	62

Halftime — UNI 36, INS 22. 3-Pt. Shooting — INS 3-16 (Reed 2-5, Marshall 1-3, Carter 0-4, Printy 0-2, Doluony 0-1, Richard 0-1), UNI 5-20 (Moran 2-4, Farokhmanesh 1-3, Ahelegbe 1-3, Sonnen 1-2, James 0-2, Eglseder 0-1, O'Rear 0-1). Turnovers — INS 10, UNI 9. Blocks — INS 1, UNI 1. Steals — INS 3, UNI 4. Att. — 6,778.

Game 18: Wichita State 60, UNI 51

Jan. 19, 2010

Koch Arena - Wichita, Kan.

Wichita, Kan. – JT Durley had 19 points, Graham Hatch added 14 and Wichita State knocked off UNI (No. 22 ESPN/USA Today, No. 20 AP) 60-51 to end the nation's second-longest winning streak at 15 games.

Wichita State had a tough shooting night, hitting just 3-of-18 from 3-point range, making up for it with scrappiness and stingy perimeter defense.

UNI made several runs after a miserable first half at both ends, but came up short after being ranked this week for the second time in school history.

UNI trailed by 12 after a miserable first half at both ends but didn't need long to get it all back.

After all but ignoring Jordan Eglseder in the first half, the Panthers worked the ball into the big senior on three of their first four possessions of the second to hit five straight shots to score the first eight points.

In three minutes, the lead was down to two.

The Shockers didn't score until Gabe Blair dropped in a midrange jumper at 15:15, then used a steal and a fastbreak layup by David Kyles to get themselves and the crowd back into it. Wichita State held UNI scoreless over its next six possessions to push the lead to seven, then went on another mini run to go up 48-39 on Hatch's fastbreak layup with just under four minutes left.

UNI tried to mount another run, but Wichita State made 13-of-17 free throws to seal it after failing to get to the line in the first half.

The Shockers went right at the Missouri Valley's best defense early, working the ball into the post despite the presence of Eglseder, a mammoth 7-footer.

The Shockers didn't hesitate in taking the ball to the rim and used nifty passing between post players to set up layups and dunks when the Panthers collapsed. Wichita State's inside success opened up the perimeter and the Shockers hit from there, too, opening the game 10-for-17 from the floor — despite a couple of early jittery airballs — to go up 22-9.

UNI (51)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Farokhmanesh	36	3-13	2-2	2	1	2	10
11	Ahelegbe	35	4-9	3-4	4	4	5	11
13	Moran	29	1-3	1-2	4	2	2	3
34	Koch, A.	30	5-10	1-2	5	1	3	11
53	Eglseder	34	6-9	2-4	7	2	3	14
20	Koch, J.	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0
22	Dunham	14	0-2	0-0	0	0	2	0
23	Sonnen	6	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0
32	O'Rear	12	1-1	0-0	3	0	3	2
Totals		200	20-48	9-14	29	10	21	51

Wichita State (60)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
00	Ellis	14	1-4	0-0	1	0	2	2
03	Hannah	28	2-7	2-2	4	8	1	6
14	Hatch	38	5-8	2-2	8	2	3	14
23	Murry	24	2-6	1-2	3	3	3	5
31	Durley	34	6-11	6-6	5	1	3	19
05	Williams	1	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0
24	Kyles	19	1-6	1-2	6	1	0	3
32	Blair	25	4-8	1-2	2	0	4	9
41	Stutz	7	1-4	0-1	1	0	2	2
Totals		200	22-55	13-17	37	15	18	60

Halftime — WSU 29, UNI 17. 3-Pt. Shooting — UNI 2-13 (Farokhmanesh 2-8, Moran 0-2, Dunham 0-1, Sonnen 0-1, A. Koch 0-1), WSU 3-18 (Hatch 2-5, Durley 1-4, Kyles 0-4, Hannah 0-3, Murry 0-2). Turnovers — UNI 10, WSU 6. Blocks — UNI 2, WSU 3. Steals — UNI 4, WSU 5. Att. — 10,506.

Game 19: UNI 67, Indiana State 58

Jan. 24, 2010

Hulman Center - Terre Haute, Ind.

Terre Haute, Ind. – Kerwin Dunham scored a career-high 14 points, and Jordan Eglseder added 12 points, seven rebounds and three blocks for the UNI Panthers (17-2, 8-1).

Dunham hit all four of his first-half attempts, including both of his 3-pointers, as UNI outscored Indiana State 15-4 in the last 8 minutes to take a 30-19 lead.

UNI's lead never grew bigger than 14 points in the second half, and Indiana State cut the advantage to 45-39 with 8:13 to go. Farokhmanesh hit a 3 out of a timeout to stretch the lead back to nine, though, and Kwadzo Ahelegbe's layup made it 50-39 with 5:33 to go.

The Panthers wound up shooting 51.1 percent from the field (23 of 45) and were 15 of 19 from the foul line, but balanced the positive production with 14 turnovers.

Adam Koch, one of 12 players in school history with 1,000 points and 500 rebounds, was held to nine points on only 1 of 7 shooting from the field for UNI.

Rashad Reed scored 14 points to lead Indiana State (11-9, 3-6), which has lost four straight games. Brant Leitnaker added 10 points.

It was the second time in eight days the two teams met, with UNI beating the Sycamores 62-40 in Cedar Falls on Jan. 16. It was also the 11th win in 13 conference road games over the past two seasons for the Panthers; both of the losses were at Wichita State.

"You'd better bring your hardhat, because they're a tough, physical team," McKenna said of the Panthers. "You have to make physical plays, and you have to be strong with the ball. You have to grind like crazy. You have to play really hard and really smart. They make you pay when you make a mistake at both ends."

UNI (67)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Farokhmanesh	35	3-6	2-2	3	3	2	9
11	Ahelegbe	29	4-8	1-3	4	6	2	9
22	Dunham	32	4-5	4-4	2	2	0	14
34	Koch, A.	27	1-7	6-6	6	0	1	9
53	Eglseder	23	5-7	2-2	7	1	3	12
20	Koch, J.	11	0-1	0-0	1	1	1	0
23	Sonnen	13	2-4	0-0	1	1	3	5
32	O'Rear	18	2-3	0-0	6	2	1	4
52	James	12	2-4	0-2	2	0	1	5
Totals		200	23-45	15-19	35	16	14	67

Indiana State (58)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
00	Leitnaker	20	3-4	4-4	3	1	2	10
03	Reed	36	5-9	2-2	1	1	2	14
23	Marshall	32	4-12	4-4	4	2	4	13
24	Printy	32	0-3	0-0	1	1	0	0
34	Richard	30	3-12	0-0	3	0	3	7
01	Doluony	11	3-6	0-0	1	0	3	7
05	Crawford	4	0-0	0-0	2	0	1	0
21	Martin	14	2-3	1-1	2	0	0	5
32	Carter	21	1-5	0-1	4	0	2	2
Totals		200	21-54	11-12	23	5	17	58

Halftime — UNI 30, INS 19. 3-Pt. Shooting — UNI 6-19 (Dunham 2-3, James 1-2, Farokhmanesh 1-3, Sonnen 1-3, A. Koch 1-4, Ahelegbe 0-3, J. Koch 0-1), INS 5-18 (Reed 2-4, Richard 1-2, Doluony 1-3, Marshall 1-4, Carter 0-3, Printy 0-2). Turnovers — UNI 14, INS 9. Blocks — UNI 3, INS 1. Steals — UNI 4, INS 7. Att. — 3,407.

Game 20: UNI 67, Drake 51

Jan. 27, 2010

McLeod Center - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa – The No. 25-ranked University of Northern Iowa men's basketball squad claimed its second-ever mythical state championship with a 67-51 victory over the visiting Drake Bulldogs.

The Panthers were paced by a 14 points from senior forward Adam Koch and a 9-point, 9-rebound effort from junior forward Lucas O'Rear. UNI's Jordan Eglseider and Ali Farokhmanesh also netted 10 points in the game. Drake was led by Josh Young's 12 points and Adam Templeton's 10 points.

Drake's only lead of the contest came on a three-pointer by Frank Wiseler that gave the Bulldogs a 3-2 advantage, which was soon eclipsed by a Kwadzo Ahelegbe jumper and a three-pointer from Johnny Moran.

The Bulldogs scored the first two buckets of the second half on a triple from Templeton and a steal and layup by Young to trim the Panther lead to 34-29 with 18:20 remaining in the game. However another 7-0 run by the Panthers pushed the margin to 12 at 41-29. UNI kept the lead at 12 following a jumper by Ahelegbe with 8:51 left in the game to make it 53-41.

Drake got two scores from Aaron Hawley and Young to narrow the lead to eight with 7:45 to play in the game. Templeton then missed an open three-pointer that would have cut the lead to five with 6:22 left. After that miss by Templeton, UNI tallied a 10-0 run to put the game out of reach.

Jake Koch started the run by banking in a 15-footer, then Farokhmanesh buried a three-pointer to make it 58-45. Adam Koch scored a basket and was fouled. Koch missed the free throw but O'Rear hustled to get the offensive rebound to extend the possession. O'Rear then finished off the run with a conventional three-point play that ignited the McLeod Center crowd of 6,069.

The capper came with 1:33 on the clock when Farokhmanesh hit Adam Koch with an alley-oop pass on a fastbreak and Koch stuffed it through with his right hand for a 67-49 lead.

Drake (51)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
10	Wedel	27	0-7	0-0	3	1	1	0
13	Wiseler	37	4-8	0-0	3	0	1	9
20	Young	33	5-10	2-2	6	1	3	12
44	Templeton	31	3-10	2-2	6	0	3	10
45	VanDeest	18	2-4	3-3	0	0	3	7
02	Hawley	12	1-2	0-0	2	0	1	2
22	Eaddy	9	0-1	1-2	0	0	0	1
34	Simons	20	2-4	0-0	2	0	0	4
40	Uhlenhopp	13	2-4	1-1	2	0	2	6
Totals		200	19-50	9-10	24	2	14	51

UNI (67)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Farokhmanesh	31	4-9	0-0	1	3	1	10
11	Ahelegbe	25	4-9	0-0	2	1	2	9
13	Moran	18	1-3	0-0	2	1	2	3
34	Koch, A.	26	4-7	6-8	4	3	2	14
53	Eglseider	19	3-7	4-4	6	1	2	10
10	Haak	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
20	Koch, J.	13	2-3	0-0	2	0	2	5
22	Dunham	18	0-2	2-2	2	0	0	2
23	Sonnen	13	1-2	0-0	1	2	0	2
32	O'Rear	20	4-6	1-1	9	0	3	9
33	Pehl	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
43	Rodenberg	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
52	James	14	1-3	0-0	2	0	1	3
Totals		200	24-51	13-15	35	11	15	67

Halftime – UNI 34, DU 24. 3-Pt. Shooting – DU 4-17 (Templeton 2-4, Uhlenhopp 1-3, Wiseler 1-3, Wedel 0-3, Young 0-2, Eaddy 0-1, Simons 0-1), UNI 6-19 (Farokhmanesh 2-6, J. Koch 1-1, James 1-2, Ahelegbe 1-3, Moran 1-3, A. Koch 0-2, Dunham 0-1, Sonnen 0-1). Turnovers – DU 8, UNI 7. Blocks – DU 2, UNI 4. Steals – DU 4, UNI 4. Att. – 6,069.

Game 21: UNI 55, Missouri State 54

Jan. 30, 2010

JQH Arena - Springfield, Mo.

Springfield, Mo. – The No. 25-ranked University of Northern Iowa men's basketball squad rallied from a four-point deficit in the final 1:23 to claim a 55-54 win at Missouri State on Saturday in JQH Arena.

UNI (19-2 overall, 10-1 MVC) was led by senior Jordan Eglseider's 14 points and senior forward Adam Koch contributed 10 points in the win. Missouri State (15-7 overall, 5-6 MVC) was led by Adam Leonard's game-high 17 points, on the strength of 4-of-9 shooting from 3-point land.

Missouri State held a 54-50 lead after a put-back basket by Will Creekmore with 1:38 left. UNI's Kwadzo Ahelegbe then drove to the basket on the Panthers' end and was intentionally fouled by Creekmore. Ahelegbe hit the floor hard and was unable to shoot the free throws, so UNI head coach Ben Jacobson was allowed to pick Ali Farokhmanesh to shoot the two free throws. Farokhmanesh hit the first but missed the second to pull UNI to within three points, 54-51. Koch then hit a jumper in the lane to make it 54-53 in favor of MSU.

Eglseider then blocked a Leonard jumper on the Bears' end and Kerwin Dunham scooped up the rebound. He hit Koch on an outlet pass, then Dunham ran the floor and was able to score a layup in transition give the Panthers a one-point lead with 41.6 ticks left.

Missouri State came down with a chance to win the game but Creekmore missed a jumper with 10 seconds, but the ball went out of bounds on the play and the Bears retained possession. On the in-bounds play, Leonard drove toward the basket but was shut off by the Panther defense and his shot was off. Koch grabbed the rebound and tossed an arching pass toward the Panthers' end of the floor and time expired on the play to give UNI a 55-54 road win.

UNI's bench contributed 20 points in the win. Freshman Marc Sonnen tallied nine points, junior Lucas O'Rear chipped in with six points and red-shirt freshman Jake Koch knocked in five points.

UNI (55)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Farokhmanesh	34	2-7	1-2	1	1	0	5
11	Ahelegbe	24	2-7	0-0	3	3	3	4
22	Dunham	32	1-3	0-0	3	2	0	2
34	Koch, A.	28	3-5	4-5	6	1	2	10
53	Eglseider	26	6-10	2-2	6	1	3	14
20	Koch, J.	12	2-4	0-0	5	0	2	5
23	Sonnen	17	2-4	3-5	0	0	1	9
32	O'Rear	15	2-4	2-2	3	0	1	6
52	James	12	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
Totals		200	20-44	12-16	29	8	12	55

Missouri State (54)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
00	Fuehrmeyer	11	0-1	0-0	1	1	1	0
10	Leonard	32	6-15	1-2	3	1	1	17
15	Mallett	33	4-8	0-0	5	0	1	9
34	Weems	24	2-6	0-0	4	0	2	4
44	Creekmore	29	4-10	0-1	8	1	4	8
01	Pickens	22	1-3	0-0	4	0	2	2
02	Ricks	23	1-4	4-4	2	6	3	6
21	Patterson	5	0-4	0-0	1	0	0	0
30	Jehlie	15	2-3	0-0	2	0	2	4
50	Rhine	6	2-2	0-0	0	0	2	4
Totals		200	22-56	5-7	31	9	18	54

Halftime – UNI 26, MSU 24. 3-Pt. Shooting – UNI 3-14 (Sonnen 2-3, J. Koch 1-2, Farokhmanesh 0-5, Ahelegbe 0-2, Eglseider 0-1, Dunham 0-1), MSU 5-17 (Leonard 4-9, Mallett 1-2, Weems 0-3, Fuehrmeyer 0-1, Pickens 0-1, Ricks 0-1). Turnovers – UNI 10, MSU 8. Blocks – UNI 5, MSU 1. Steals – UNI 3, MSU 4. Att. – 9,087.

Game 22: UNI 59, Wichita State 56

Feb. 3, 2010

McLeod Center - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa – Kwadzo Ahelegbe scored 18 points, 15 in the second half, and UNI hung on to beat the Wichita State Shockers 59-56.

Jordan Eglseider added 15 points for the Panthers (20-2, 11-1), who avenged a 60-51 loss in Wichita on Jan. 19 and put the second-place Shockers in a hole that might be too deep to climb out of.

Wichita State buried consecutive 3-pointers to pull within 58-56 with 1:54 left, then got the ball back with 31 seconds left. But Toure' Murry missed a 3 from the elbow, and Clewin Hannah's desperation heave bounced off the rim.

Murry had 17 points to lead Wichita State, which came in ranked ninth in the nation in free-throw percentage but shot just 10 of 17 from the line.

Ahelegbe drilled a pull-up 15-footer and muscled a tough layup in traffic to put UNI ahead 44-41 with 8:34 left. Eglseider's three-point play off a steal by Ali Farokhmanesh gave the Panthers a 47-41 lead. Wichita State quickly cut it to one, but Ahelegbe followed a 3 with yet another mid-range jumper to give UNI a 53-46 lead with just under 4 minutes left.

Ahelegbe was 1 of 9 from the field in the first half but finished 8 of 18, helping rescue an offense that shot just 38 percent from the field. But Jacobson also pointed to the contributions of reserve forward Lucas O'Rear, who finished with nine rebounds – five offensive – and helped set the tone in the paint.

The Panthers missed 12 of their first 15 shots and fell behind by as much as 18-10. But after a hot start, Wichita State could only muster four points during a 9 1/2-minute stretch late in the first half, allowing UNI to jump ahead 25-22.

Murry and Hannah responded with 3s in the final 1:18 to give the Shockers a 28-27 halftime lead – despite the fact that UNI outrebounded them 10-0 on the offensive glass.

The loss at Wichita State is the only hiccup in the Valley so far for the Panthers, who now seem poised to run away with the league title.

Wichita State (56)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
00	Ellis	25	2-4	0-0	2	0	3	4
03	Hannah	29	3-7	0-0	3	3	2	8
14	Hatch	36	2-7	2-5	6	2	1	7
23	Murry	35	6-11	1-4	4	4	1	17
31	Durley	25	2-6	3-4	3	0	3	8
05	Williams	9	0-1	0-0	0	0	2	0
24	Kyles	11	0-0	0-0	1	0	1	0
32	Blair	23	4-6	4-4	1	0	4	12
41	Stutz	7	0-0	0-0	2	0	2	0
Totals		200	19-42	10-17	27	9	19	56

UNI (55)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Farokhmanesh	27	2-6	1-2	3	1	1	7
11	Ahelegbe	34	8-18	0-2	4	1	2	18
13	Moran	21	0-2	0-0	0	2	4	0
34	Koch, A.	25	1-4	9-9	3	2	2	11
53	Eglseider	20	5-10	5-6	4	0	2	15
20	Koch, J.	15	0-2	0-1	8	1	2	0
22	Dunham	26	1-4	1-2	1	0	1	4
23	Sonnen	12	0-2	0-0	0	0	0	0
32	O'Rear	20	2-2	0-0	9	0	2	4
Totals		200	19-50	16-22	35	7	16	59

Halftime – WSU 28, UNI 27. 3-Pt. Shooting – WSU 8-19 (Murry 4-6, Hannah 2-4, Durley 1-3, Hatch 1-5, Williams 0-1), UNI 5-16 (Ahelegbe 2-4, Farokhmanesh 2-5, Dunham 1-3, J. Koch 0-2, Moran 0-1, Sonnen 0-1). Turnovers – WSU 11, UNI 10. Blocks – WSU 2, UNI 0. Steals – WSU 4, UNI 5. Att. – 6,723.

Game 23: UNI 55, Southern Illinois 52

Feb. 6, 2010

McLeod Center - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa – Adam Koch stepped up when UNI needed him most.

Koch scored 11 consecutive points for the Panthers down the stretch, helping them rally for a 55-52 victory over Southern Illinois on Saturday.

UNI (21-2, 12-1 Missouri Valley) improved to 11-0 at home this season with its seventh straight win over the Salukis in Cedar Falls. Koch had 16 of his 21 points in the second half.

"He was terrific down the stretch," Panthers coach Ben Jacobson said. "He's come through for our team a number of times. Today, obviously, it really stood out, because it was consecutive baskets down the stretch. His play was really good."

The Panthers trailed 47-42 before Koch took over. He hit two free throws, a 3-pointer and scored inside to tie it at 49. He added four straight free throws in the final minute, and Ali Farokhmanesh also had two foul shots in the final seconds for UNI.

"He played like an older guy," Southern Illinois coach Chris Lowery said of Koch. "They went to him exclusively down the stretch. He made every play, every free throw, every tough play, drew every foul, and that's what you want from your older guys."

Freeman also made a tiebreaking 3-pointer during an 8-0 run that gave the Salukis a 42-35 lead with 6:09 left. Bocot, who had five points during the surge, capped it off with a steal and dunk but was whistled for a technical foul for hanging on the rim.

Farokhmanesh went 1 for 2 on the resulting free throws and Johnny Moran hit a 3-pointer to get the Panthers right back in the game.

"I think we do a good job of staying level-headed and not getting too upset or too high," Koch said. "Tonight we just hunkered down and executed when we needed to."

Southern Illinois (52)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
01	Dillard	25	0-6	0-0	2	4	3	0
11	T. Freeman	32	6-9	1-2	2	1	0	17
21	Teague	27	2-4	5-7	5	0	4	9
23	Bocot	29	4-7	1-2	5	0	1	10
45	Fay	15	3-5	0-0	0	1	5	7
02	Brown-Surles	22	2-3	0-0	2	2	1	6
12	Mitchell	15	1-1	0-2	4	0	3	2
15	Crowder	5	0-0	1-2	1	0	0	1
22	Booker	20	0-4	0-2	2	0	5	0
34	J. Freeman	10	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0
Totals		200	18-39	8-17	26	8	22	52

UNI (67)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Farokhmanesh	38	2-5	3-4	0	0	4	8
11	Ahelegbe	32	3-12	4-6	7	3	2	10
13	Moran	30	1-1	0-0	4	2	0	3
34	Koch, A.	28	5-11	8-8	4	0	1	21
53	Eglseder	18	2-7	0-1	4	0	3	4
20	Koch, J.	13	1-4	0-0	1	0	1	2
22	Dunham	18	1-2	0-0	0	0	2	2
23	Sonnen	10	0-1	0-0	1	0	0	0
32	O'Rear	20	2-2	1-2	8	2	3	5
52	James	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	2	0
Totals		200	17-45	16-21	30	7	18	55

Halftime – UNI 18, SIU 18. 3-Pt. Shooting – SIU 8-19 (Freeman 4-7, Brown-Surles 2-2, Bocot 1-2, Fay 1-3, Dillard 0-4, Booker 0-1), UNI 5-15 (A. Koch 3-6, Moran 1-1, Farokhmanesh 1-4, Ahelegbe 0-1, J. Koch 0-1, Dunham 0-1, Sonnen 0-1). Turnovers – SIU 17, UNI 15. Blocks – SIU 2, UNI 1. Steals – SIU 6, UNI 8. Att. – 6,839.

Game 24: UNI 57, Drake 48

Feb. 10, 2010

Knapp Center - Des Moines, Iowa

Des Moines, Iowa – Adam Koch scored 12 points and Ali Farokhmanesh buried a pair of long 3s to beat the shot clock in crunch time as UNI clinched at least a share of the Missouri Valley title with a 57-48 win over the Drake Bulldogs.

UNI fell behind by 3 with 6:36 left before putting the game out of reach with a 15-0 run. Farokhmanesh keyed the spurt with his two deep 3s, and Lucas O'Rear's layup with 2:02 left put the Panthers ahead 55-45.

Farokhmanesh buried a 26-footer to push UNI's lead to 50-45 with 4:24 left, and followed with a 29-footer with 2:51 left that took the air out of Drake's second sellout crowd of the season.

"He always makes them. As for the clutchness, I mean, that's just how he is. He always hits big shots for us," Eglseder said of Farokhmanesh.

Seth VanDeest, Drake's rail-thin freshman center, stuffed Eglseder's layup try with both hands, then hit a turnaround jumper on the other end to bring the Bulldogs within 36-34 with 12:07 left. Wedel followed with a 3 that put the Bulldogs ahead for the first time since the opening minutes.

Johnny Moran's 3 made it 42-42 with 8:01 to go, though, and Koch's 3 put the Panthers ahead 47-45.

O'Rear, UNI's sparkplug forward, then drew a charge on VanDeest that helped set the stage for Farokhmanesh's fireworks.

O'Rear once again helped set the tone for Panthers strong defense. Drake was outscored 26-6 in the paint, 22-2 on second-chance points and had just one field goal in the final 6:36 – a meaningless 3 with 23 seconds left.

"He's playing at a very high level," Northern Iowa coach Ben Jacobson said of O'Rear. "His energy and his toughness is something that our basketball team really feeds off of."

The Panthers didn't hit a 3 in the first half, but they shot 12 of 17 inside the arc in building a 28-24 halftime lead. UNI outscored Drake 20-4 in the paint in the opening half – a trend that would continue after the break.

UNI (57)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Farokhmanesh	33	4-6	0-0	3	4	1	10
11	Ahelegbe	31	1-5	0-0	5	4	2	2
13	Moran	27	4-7	0-0	4	0	1	10
34	Koch, A.	28	4-11	2-2	8	1	1	12
53	Eglseder	21	4-6	0-0	6	0	3	3
20	Koch, J.	12	2-3	0-0	2	1	1	5
22	Dunham	18	0-1	0-0	1	0	1	0
23	Sonnen	11	1-3	0-0	0	0	1	2
32	O'Rear	19	2-5	4-4	2	1	2	8
Totals		200	22-51	6-6	34	11	13	57

Drake (48)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
10	Wedel	32	4-10	0-0	1	0	1	11
13	Wiseler	29	3-5	0-0	1	2	3	9
20	Young	38	5-11	0-0	2	3	1	11
44	Templeton	36	2-5	0-1	10	3	0	5
45	VanDeest	32	3-8	1-2	3	1	4	7
02	Hawley	6	1-1	0-0	0	0	1	2
22	Eaddy	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
34	Simons	18	1-3	0-0	1	0	0	3
40	Uhlenhopp	4	0-1	0-0	2	0	1	0
Totals		200	19-44	1-3	21	9	11	48

Halftime – UNI 28, DU 24. 3-Pt. Shooting – UNI 7-18 (A. Koch 2-3, Moran 2-5, Farokhmanesh 2-6, J. Koch 1-1, Ahelegbe 0-1, Dunham 0-1, Sonnen 0-1), DU 9-19 (Wiseler 3-4, Wedel 3-7, Simons 1-2, Templeton 1-2, Young 1-3, Uhlenhopp 0-1). Turnovers – UNI 6, DU 7. Blocks – UNI 2, DU 2. Steals – UNI 2, DU 2. Att. – 7,152.

Game 25: Bradley 68, UNI 59

Feb. 13, 2010

Carver Arena - Peoria, Ill.

Peoria, Ill. – The Bradley Braves scored a 68-59 victory over the No. 18/No. 19-ranked University of Northern Iowa Panthers on Saturday afternoon in Carver Arena.

The Braves used a 45-27 scoring advantage in the second half after trailing 32-23 at the half to earn the victory.

The Panthers and Braves were knotted at 11-11 in the first half when the Panthers went on a 13-4 run to open up a 24-15 lead. The run was capped by an Anthony James 3-pointer with 5:36 left in the half.

The Braves began the second half on an 11-0 run to seize the lead from the Panthers. UNI regained the lead on a 3-pointer from Ali Farokhmanesh at 35-34 with 14:32 left in the game.

Senior center Jordan Eglseder pushed the Panther lead to three at 37-34 following a pair of free throws with 13:42 remaining. But a 7-0 run by the Braves was ignited by two free throws and a 3-pointer from Andrew Warren.

Senior Johnny Moran dropped in a pair of free throws to tie the game at 46-46 with 8:37 left. But a 6-0 run by the Braves erased the rally from the Panthers.

UNI climbed to within four points at 55-51, but could get no closer and the Braves claimed their first-ever win over a ranked team in Carver Arena.

Bradley had four of its starters reach double figures. Warren tallied a game-high 15 points, Chris Roberts scored 13 and Taylor Brown and Will Egolf each scored 12.

The Panthers were led by Farokhmanesh's 14 points. Eglseder posted 13 points and six rebounds, while Kwadzo Ahelegbe also tallied 13 points.

UNI (59)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Farokhmanesh	31	4-11	2-2	1	1	3	14
11	Ahelegbe	35	4-6	4-4	4	3	2	13
13	Moran	27	0-5	2-2	4	3	2	2
34	Koch, A.	28	2-8	2-2	5	2	5	6
53	Eglseder	21	4-11	5-6	6	0	1	13
20	Koch, J.	12	0-2	0-0	7	3	1	0
22	Dunham	12	1-6	0-0	1	0	0	2
23	Sonnen	10	1-4	0-0	1	1	2	2
32	O'Rear	19	1-1	2-2	6	0	2	4
52	James	5	1-1	0-0	0	0	1	3
Totals		200	18-55	17-18	38	13	19	59

Bradley (68)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
03	Brown	37	2-9	8-8	7	0	2	12
05	Maniscalco	35	2-5	4-4	3	4	2	8
21	Egolf	31	6-10	0-0	4	0	4	12
23	Roberts	34	6-8	1-1	4	2	2	13
24	Warren	35	4-12	5-6	2	2	2	15
03	Eastman	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
32	Simms-Edwards	17	2-4	4-5	2	0	2	8
54	Singh	8	0-0	0-0	2	0	2	0
Totals		200	22-48	22-24	27	8	16	68

Halftime – UNI 32, BU 23. 3-Pt. Shooting – UNI 6-30 (Farokhmanesh 4-11, Ahelegbe 1-1, James 1-1, A. Koch 0-5, Moran 0-5, Dunham 0-3, J. Koch 0-2, Sonnen 0-2), BU 9-19 (Warren 2-5, Maniscalco 0-3, Brown 0-1, Roberts 0-1, Simms-Edwards 0-1). Turnovers – UNI 16, BU 8. Blocks – UNI 2, BU 2. Steals – UNI 3, BU 8. Att. – 9,887.

Game 26: UNI 70, Creighton 52

Feb. 16, 2010

McLeod Center - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa – The No. 24-ranked University of Northern Iowa men's basketball team clinched the program's first-ever Missouri Valley Conference with a 70-52 victory over the Creighton Bluejays in the McLeod Center.

The Panthers drained 13 3-pointers and committed only six turnovers in improving to 23-3 overall and 14-2 in MVC play. The 14 league wins ties a school record, which the Panthers set last season at 14-4. Creighton dropped to 13-14 overall and 8-8 in league play.

The Bluejays jumped out to an early 7-0 lead before a quick timeout from Panther head coach Ben Jacobson at the 18:02 mark of the first half. The Panthers responded with a 9-0 run to take a 9-7 lead following a layup by sophomore guard Johnny Moran with 15:28 remaining in the half. Creighton knotted the score at 9-9 on a jumper from Kenny Lawson Jr.

The Panthers eventually turned the 7-0 deficit into a 28-5 run of their own to claim a 28-12 lead following a 3-pointer from Moran. During the Panthers' run, senior guard Ali Farokhmanesh buried his first four 3-pointers of the game. UNI hit six triples during the 28-5 run.

UNI held Creighton without a basket from the 13:43 mark to the 6:04 mark of the first half. During that stretch, UNI outscored Creighton by the count of 14-3.

The Panthers continued their 3-point assault in the second half by knocking down seven more triples in the final 20 minutes. UNI had six different players make 3-pointers in the contest, including five from Farokhmanesh and three from Moran.

A Jake Koch 3-pointer with 6:18 to go gave the Panthers their biggest lead of the game at 64-42.

Farokhmanesh and Moran tied for team-high honors with 17 points. Creighton was led by Antoine Young's 13 points. Justin Carter chipped in 11 points and Lawson Jr. tossed in 10 points.

Creighton (52)										
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP		
01	Carter	28	3-7	5-6	7	4	1	11		
24	Ashford	18	1-4	0-0	5	1	3	3		
25	Lawson Jr.	25	4-7	2-2	4	0	2	10		
30	Young	30	5-10	1-2	4	2	0	13		
32	Harriman	19	0-2	0-0	4	0	3	0		
00	Jones	14	1-6	0-0	1	0	0	2		
03	Witter	12	0-3	0-1	1	1	0	0		
12	Back	6	1-1	2-2	1	0	1	5		
13	Millard	7	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0		
15	Korver	12	0-2	0-0	2	0	1	0		
23	Runnels	12	1-1	0-1	0	0	3	2		
34	Wragge	17	2-5	0-0	1	0	4	6		
Totals		200	18-48	10-14	34	8	19	52		

UNI (70)										
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP		
05	Farokhmanesh	32	5-10	2-2	0	1	1	17		
11	Ahelegbe	28	2-8	2-3	5	4	2	6		
13	Moran	28	6-10	2-2	1	0	2	17		
32	O'Rear	21	1-7	2-5	5	1	3	4		
34	Koch, A.	26	1-2	7-9	7	1	1	9		
20	Koch, J.	21	1-1	2-2	5	1	1	5		
22	Dunham	16	2-2	0-0	0	1	1	6		
23	Sonnen	10	1-1	0-0	1	1	2	3		
43	Rodenberg	12	0-2	0-0	0	0	3	0		
52	James	6	1-1	0-0	1	0	2	3		
Totals		200	20-44	17-23	26	10	18	70		

Halftime – UNI 37, CU 24. 3-Pt. Shooting – CU 6-23 (Wragge 2-5, Young 2-5, Ashford 1-1, Back 1-1, Jones 0-3, Witter 0-3, Korver 0-2, Carter 0-2, Harriman 0-1), UNI 13-27 (Farokhmanesh 5-10, Moran 3-7, Dunham 2-2, James 1-1, Sonnen 1-1, Ahelegbe 0-2, A. Koch 0-1, Rodenberg 0-1). Turnovers – CU 14, UNI 6. Blocks – CU 1, UNI 3. Steals – CU 4, UNI 6. Att. – 5,540.

Game 27: UNI 71, Old Dominion 62

Feb. 19, 2010

McLeod Center - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa – University of Northern Iowa senior guard Ali Farokhmanesh poured in a career-high 23 points and the No. 24-ranked Panthers scored a 71-62 victory over the Old Dominion Monarchs in a BracketBusters matchup.

Farokhmanesh scored all 23 of his points in the second half as he drained five 3-pointers and was a perfect 6-for-6 at the free throw line.

ODU held a 8-6 lead following a bucket for Keyon Carter with 15:21 left in the first half. UNI then responded with a 15-2 run to open up a 21-10 lead with 8:51 left in the half. The run was started by back-to-back 3-pointers from Johnny Moran and Jake Koch.

The second half simply belonged to Farokhmanesh. He went 0-for-2 from the field in the first half but made 6-of-8 shots from the field in the second half and buried all six free throw attempts. He hit his first 3-pointer of the second half at the 18:36 mark to give UNI a 34-25 lead.

Farokhmanesh got the crowd going shortly thereafter with a rare 4-point play as he drained a triple and was fouled with 16:16 left in the game. Lucas O'Rear put the crowd even further into a frenzy with a steal and dunk at the 16:00 mark to put UNI on top, 40-30.

Freshman Marc Sonnen gave UNI its biggest lead of the game with 12:25 left when he buried a triple to make it 49-35. Following a timeout, ODU trimmed the lead to 51-46 on a bucket from Gerald Lee. Lee had a chance to cut into the five-point margin, but missed the front end of a 1-and-1.

Farokhmanesh came down the floor after the Lee missed free throw and sank another 3-pointer to put the Panthers on top, 54-46. Farokhmanesh made the next Panther bucket by driving to the basket and making a scoop layup as the shot clock expired with 5:55 left in the contest.

The Monarchs' Kent Bazemore drained a 3-pointer to pull ODU to within seven points at 56-49 with 5:28 left, but Farokhmanesh answered with a 3-pointer of his own and ODU would get no closer than eight points the rest of the way.

Old Dominion (62)										
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP		
12	Lee	36	6-11	6-7	3	0	5	19		
21	Hassell	29	3-7	3-3	9	2	1	9		
24	Bazemore	34	6-9	0-0	2	1	3	13		
33	Carter	19	3-5	0-0	0	0	5	7		
35	Finney	34	2-5	1-3	4	5	1	5		
01	Wright	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0		
03	James	27	3-9	0-0	0	3	2	9		
15	Iladiis	5	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0		
22	De Lancy	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0		
23	Neely	10	0-3	0-0	3	0	0	0		
Totals		200	23-49	10-13	26	11	18	62		

UNI (71)										
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP		
05	Farokhmanesh	31	6-10	6-6	2	2	1	23		
11	Ahelegbe	35	2-10	5-6	1	5	1	10		
13	Moran	30	2-5	0-0	5	3	1	5		
32	O'Rear	30	3-4	1-2	6	1	2	7		
34	Koch, A.	21	3-7	2-2	7	1	5	8		
20	Koch, J.	19	1-2	1-2	4	2	2	4		
22	Dunham	12	1-4	2-3	0	0	0	5		
23	Sonnen	10	1-2	0-0	1	0	1	3		
43	Rodenberg	10	3-3	0-0	3	0	4	6		
52	James	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0		
Totals		200	22-47	17-21	30	14	17	71		

Halftime – UNI 31, ODU 22. 3-Pt. Shooting – ODU 6-19 (James 3-8, Lee 1-1, Carter 1-2, Bazemore 1-3, Finney 0-3, Neely 0-2), UNI 10-22 (Farokhmanesh 5-9, J. Koch 1-1, Dunham 1-2, Sonnen 1-2, Ahelegbe 1-3, Moran 1-4, A. Koch 0-1). Turnovers – ODU 16, UNI 14. Blocks – ODU 2, UNI 1. Steals – ODU 6, UNI 5. Att. – 7,031.

Game 28: Evansville 55, UNI 54

Feb. 23, 2010

Roberts Stadium - Evansville, Ind.

Evansville, Ind. – James Haarsma had 12 points and eight rebounds to help Evansville stun UNI 55-54 on Tuesday night.

Evansville had lost 17 of 18 before pulling off one of the biggest upsets of the college basketball season. It was the final home game of the season for the Purple Aces, and just 4,716 showed up to watch them beat a ranked team for the first time since 2003.

Kavon Lacey scored 11 points and Colt Ryan added 10 for Evansville.

Jake Koch scored 22 points and Adam Koch added 14 for UNI, which had already clinched the conference title outright and was merely trying to avoid a slip-up. The Panthers were without 7-foot center Jordan Eglseider, who served the last game of a three-game suspension.

A 3-pointer by Ryan gave the Purple Aces a 30-26 lead. A layup by Denver Holmes pushed Evansville's lead to six and forced Northern Iowa to call a timeout 3 minutes into the second half.

The Purple Aces kept the pressure on. Ned Cox banked in a jumper as the shot clock expired to give Evansville a 39-28 lead 6 minutes into the second half.

Jake Koch went on another scoring binge to get his team back into the game. He scored nine points during an 11-1 run, including a layup that cut Evansville's lead to 40-39.

UNI took the lead on two free throws by Kwadzo Ahelegbe, but Evansville quickly regained it on baskets by Haarsma and Lacey.

A 3-pointer by Ali Farokhmanesh cut Evansville's lead to 53-51 with 25 seconds left.

Lucas O'Rear stole the ball for UNI, but Jake Koch missed an off-balance shot in close, and Evansville got the rebound. Lacey made two free throws to make it 55-51. Northern Iowa's Johnny Moran made a 30-footer with 2 seconds left to make it 55-54, but the Panthers didn't foul until two-tenths of a second remained. Evansville missed two free throws, and time expired.

UNI (54)										
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP		
05	Farokhmanesh	38	2-8	2-2	3	1	4	7		
11	Ahelegbe	18	0-2	2-2	0	1	4	2		
13	Moran	34	1-6	0-0	1	2	0	3		
32	O'Rear	18	2-4	0-0	4	0	2	4		
34	Koch, A.	24	6-11	1-2	5	0	5	14		
20	Koch, J.	27	5-10	10-10	10	0	1	22		
22	Dunham	24	0-4	2-2	2	1	1	2		
23	Sonnen	11	0-2	0-0	3	0	3	0		
43	Rodenberg	4	0-1	0-0	1	0	1	0		
52	James	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0		
Totals		200	16-48	17-18	31	5	21	54		

Evansville (55)										
##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP		
01	Gregory	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0		
02	Lacey	29	4-8	2-2	3	5	3	11		
11	Ryan	32	2-7	4-5	2	3	3	10		
34	Holmes	31	4-9	0-3	5	1	4	8		
52	Hopf	13	0-2	2-2	4	0	1	2		
04	Jones	6	0-0	0-0	1	0	2	0		
05	Taylor	11	1-2	0-0	1	0	2	2		
22	Cox	23	2-6	0-0	1	0	1	5		
32	Haarsma	28	4-4	4-5	8	2	3	12		
41	Van Tongeren	24	2-3	1-2	1	1	3	5		
Totals		200	19-41	13-19	28	12	22	55		

Halftime – UNI 24, UE 23. 3-Pt. Shooting – UNI 5-23 (J. Koch 2-4, A. Koch 1-3, Moran 1-4, Farokhmanesh 1-7, Dunham 0-3, Ahelegbe 0-1, Sonnen 0-1), UE 4-12 (Ryan 2-5, Lacey 1-1, Cox 1-4, Holmes 0-2). Turnovers – UNI 15, UE 15. Blocks – UNI 3, UE 0. Steals – UNI 2, UE 2. Att. – 4,716.

Game 29: UNI 61, Illinois State 55

Feb. 27, 2010

McLeod Center - Cedar Falls, Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa – University of Northern Iowa center Jordan Eglseider returned from a three-game suspension to score 13 points, and UNI (No. 22 ESPN/USA Today, No. 25 AP) beat Illinois State 61-55 on Saturday night to complete its first unbeaten season at home in 46 years.

Adam Koch added 12 points and a key late block for the Panthers, who also reached the 25-win mark for the first time.

Illinois State's Lloyd Phillips and Osiris Eldridge hit 3-pointers to pull the Redbirds within 58-55 with 34.4 seconds left. But Koch swatted Dinma Odiakosa's layup try and Johnny Moran hit a pair of free throws with 7 seconds left to help the Panthers hang on.

Eldridge had 14 points for Illinois State, which lost for the first time in seven games.

UNI maintained a slim lead to start the second half, jumping ahead 45-40 on Ali Farokhmanesh's 3 with 8:16 left. Lucas O'Rear was called for an intentional foul shortly thereafter, but Illinois State could only squeeze one point out of a golden opportunity to seize momentum.

Koch, who'd been frustrated much of the night by Illinois State's physical defense, took over from there. He broke through for a transition slam, a soft bank shot and two free throws to make it 53-45 with just under four minutes left.

Eglseider passed the 1,000-point mark early in the second half. Eglseider showed up with a freshly-shaved head, and the 7-footer's renewed focus was apparent from the opening tip. He helped key an 18-4 run that put the Panthers ahead by 11 midway through the first half, a lead they would not relinquish. Eglseider found Kerwin Dunham for a 3 in the corner with a bullet pass from the top of the key, then blocked Jackie Carmichael underneath to set up another Dunham 3.

Eglseider finished 5 of 10 from the floor with six rebounds, and received a large ovation from the crowd in Senior Night ceremonies shortly after the game.

Kwadzo Ahelegbe and Dunham each added 10 points for the Panthers.

Illinois State (55)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
0	Eldridge	36	5-12	2-4	3	1	4	14
3	Rubin	18	1-7	0-0	0	1	2	3
12	Phillips	39	3-8	0-0	2	3	1	9
34	Lewis	29	3-4	0-0	10	1	2	6
42	Odiakosa	24	4-8	4-5	9	2	3	12
13	Hill	24	3-4	0-0	2	0	3	6
21	Thornton	9	0-1	0-0	1	0	1	0
32	Carmichael	16	2-5	1-2	1	0	5	5
33	Clark	4	0-0	0-0	2	0	0	4
50	Mishler	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	1	0
Totals		200	21-49	7-11	33	8	22	55

UNI (61)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Farokhmanesh	35	2-7	0-0	0	1	2	5
11	Ahelegbe	28	1-6	7-8	1	3	1	10
13	Moran	34	1-7	4-4	7	2	2	7
34	Koch, A.	28	5-11	2-2	5	1	1	12
53	Eglseider	25	5-10	3-4	6	2	3	13
20	Koch, J.	11	1-3	2-2	3	0	1	4
22	Dunham	14	3-3	1-2	1	0	0	10
23	Sonnen	10	0-2	0-0	1	0	0	0
32	O'Rear	15	0-0	0-1	4	2	4	0
Totals		200	18-49	19-23	31	11	14	61

Halftime – UNI 28, ILS 19. 3-Pt. Shooting – ILS 6-22 (Phillips 3-7, Eldridge 2-6, Rubin 1-7, Hill 0-1, Thornton 0-1), UNI 6-16 (Dunham 3-3, Ahelegbe 1-3, Moran 1-3, Farokhmanesh 1-4, A. Koch 0-2, O'Rear 0-1). Turnovers – ILS 17, UNI 10. Blocks – ILS 7, UNI 2. Steals – ILS 2, UNI 6. Att. – 7,332.

Game 30: UNI 55, Drake 40

March 5, 2010

Scottrade Center - St. Louis, Mo.

St. Louis, Mo. – The University of Northern Iowa men's basketball team advanced to the State Farm Missouri Valley Conference semifinals with a 55-40 victory over the Drake Bulldogs on Friday in the Scottrade Center.

The Panthers used a decisive 33-3 run and held the Bulldogs to no field goals over a 20-minute stretch from the first half into the second half. UNI was led in scoring by seniors Adam Koch and Jordan Eglseider with 10 points each.

UNI took a 5-2 lead in the game on a 3-pointer from sophomore Johnny Moran. But the Bulldogs' offense caught fire and allowed the No. 8 seed to build a 24-13 lead with 7:59 left in the first half. The Bulldogs made 10 of their first 15 shots of the contest. From that point on, Drake made only three of its final 25 shots from the field.

"They came out, they were hitting every shot," Moran said. "We slowed down and gather ourselves and defensively we just stepped it up. We knew that was going to win us the game."

However, Drake would not score another field goal until a shot by Ryan Wedel with 7:00 left in the game. At one point during the Bulldogs' scoreless stretch the Panthers turned an 11-point deficit into a 19-point lead, 46-27.

"Drake obviously got off to a nice start and I think we saw the advantage of playing the game on this floor early with the way that Drake played," UNI head coach Ben Jacobson said. "Fortunately, our defense kicked in a little bit. I thought we guarded pretty well the last 30 minutes of the basketball game."

A key point in the 33-3 run was 16-second stretch that saw senior guard Ali Farokhmanesh bury back-to-back 3-pointers. Drake's Seth VanDeest had just buried a pair of free throws to make it 28-26 in UNI's favor, when Farokhmanesh sank his long-range bombs with 16:26 and 16:10 left in the game.

Drake (40)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
10	Wedel	32	3-7	0-0	3	1	2	0
13	Wiseler	19	0-2	0-0	1	4	3	0
20	Young	36	3-12	2-5	3	1	2	9
44	Templeton	33	2-4	0-0	7	0	2	4
45	VanDeest	23	1-4	4-4	2	0	4	6
02	Hawley	6	2-3	0-0	1	0	0	6
03	Stanley	23	1-4	2-4	1	1	1	4
22	Eaddy	10	0-0	-0-	0	0	3	0
34	Simons	11	1-2	0-0	2	0	0	3
40	Uhlenhopp	7	0-2	0-0	1	0	2	0
Totals		200	13-40	8-13	26	7	19	40

UNI (55)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Farokhmanesh	33	2-10	0-0	3	1	4	6
11	Ahelegbe	31	2-6	3-4	2	4	2	7
13	Moran	29	3-7	0-0	4	1	0	8
34	Koch, A.	24	3-8	4-4	7	4	1	10
53	Eglseider	18	5-8	0-0	6	1	1	10
10	Haak	1	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	0
20	Koch, J.	16	0-0	0-0	2	0	1	2
22	Dunham	18	1-2	0-0	1	0	3	2
23	Sonnen	9	1-2	2-2	0	0	0	4
32	O'Rear	21	2-4	4-6	8	1	3	8
43	Rodenberg	0+	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
Totals		200	19-48	13-16	36	13	16	55

Halftime – DU 24, UNI 23. 3-Pt. Shooting – DU 6-19 (Hawley 2-3, Wedel 2-3, Simons 1-2, Young 1-5, Stanley 0-2, Templeton 0-1), UNI 4-16 (Moran 2-5, Farokhmanesh 2-7, A. Koch 0-1, Ahelegbe 0-1, Dunham 0-1, Sonnen 0-1). Turnovers – DU 12, UNI 8. Blocks – DU 0, UNI 0. Steals – DU 3, UNI 4. Att. – 10,830.

Game 31: UNI 57, Bradley 40

March 6, 2010

Scottrade Center - St. Louis, Mo.

St. Louis, Mo. – The University of Northern Iowa men's basketball team advanced to its second consecutive State Farm Missouri Valley Conference men's basketball tournament championship game with a stifling defensive effort against the Bradley Braves, 57-40.

The Panthers (27-4 overall) limited its second straight MVC Tournament opponent to 40 points in advancing to the school's fourth appearance in the championship game. UNI was led in scoring by senior center Jordan Eglseider and freshman guard Marc Sonnen with 10 points apiece. Andrew Warren led Bradley with a game-high 12 points.

The Panthers never trailed in the game and wasted little time entering the scoring column when senior guard Ali Farokhmanesh scored off the opening tip only four seconds into the game. Farokhmanesh added a 3-pointer with 19:26 left in the game to up the margin to 5-0. UNI kept the pedal down and pushed the lead to 19-6 with 11:50 left in first half after redshirt freshman guard Anthony James drained a jumper.

Bradley's Andrew Warren made a layup with 7:06 left in the half and finished off the conventional 3-point play with a free throw. Following that field goal, Bradley did not register a field goal the rest of the first half. Bradley's next field goal came with 17:56 left in the game on another layup by Warren.

The Panthers played a nearly flawless first half by committing only two turnovers, while forcing the Braves into 10 miscues. UNI held Bradley to 28.6 percent shooting in the first half and only six made field goals, while the Panthers made 14-of-30 shots (46.7 percent).

UNI's second-half lead grew to as many as 24 points at 50-26 with 9:58 left on the clock. The Panthers grabbed nine offensive rebounds in the second half and managed 13 for the game.

Bradley (40)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Maniscalco	35	3-8	4-4	1	2	4	10
21	Egolf	20	1-2	0-0	3	0	4	2
23	Roberts	28	2-7	1-2	3	1	1	5
24	Warren	26	2-8	8-9	2	0	1	12
32	Simms-Edwards	26	1-3	0-0	2	2	0	2
01	McCalin	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
03	Brown	20	2-6	0-0	2	0	1	4
04	Eastman	17	1-3	0-0	3	0	2	3
25	Phillips	1	1-1	0-0	0	0	0	2
34	Knezevic	1	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0
54	Singh	20	0-1	0-0	8	2	0	0
Totals		200	13-39	13-15	29	7	13	40

UNI (57)

##	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Farokhmanesh	25	2-11	0-0	2	2	1	5
11	Ahelegbe	23	2-8	0-0	6	1	3	5
13	Moran	27	2-9	0-0	4	3	1	5
34	Koch, A.	25	2-6	2-2	6	2	1	7
53	Eglseider	22	4-6	2-3	5	1	2	10
10	Haak	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
20	Koch, J.	11	0-0	0-0	2	3	2	0
22	Dunham	18	1-3	1-1	0	0	0	3
23	Sonnen	18	4-8	0-0	0	1	2	10
32	O'Rear	18	2-3	0-0	4	2	1	4
33	Pehl	1	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	0
43	Rodenberg	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0
52	James	9	3-4	0-0	0	0	2	8
Totals		200	22-58	5-6	33	15	15	57

Halftime – UNI 36, Bradley 19. 3-Pt. Shooting – BU 1-10 (Eastman 1-2, Maniscalco 0-3, Roberts 0-2, Warren 0-1, Simms-Edwards 0-1, Brown 0-1), UNI 8-24 (James 2-2, Sonnen 2-3, Ahelegbe 1-2, A. Koch 1-3, Moran 1-5, Dunham 0-1). Turnovers – BU 14, UNI 7. Blocks – BU 1, UNI 1. Steals – BU 6, UNI 9. Att. – 13,814.

Game 32: UNI 67, Wichita State 52

March 7, 2010

Scottrade Center - St. Louis, Mo.

St. Louis, Mo. – The University of Northern Iowa men's basketball team captured its second straight State Farm Missouri Valley Conference basketball title with a 67-52 win over the Wichita State Shockers at Scottrade Center.

The Panthers (28-4 overall) were powered by a game-high 24 points from the tournament's Most Outstanding Player Kwadzo Ahelegbe. Ahelegbe posted a game-high 24 points on 5-of-10 shooting from the field and 12-of-14 from the free throw line. Redshirt freshman Jake Koch knocked in 13 points on 5-of-7 shooting, which included 3-of-4 from 3-point land.

UNI jumped out to an early 12-5 advantage behind a pair of threes from Jake Koch. But the Shockers responded with an 11-0 run to take a 16-12 lead with 9:09 left in the first half. A 3-pointer from junior guard Kerwin Dunham gave the lead back to the Panthers at 17-16 with 7:32 left before intermission.

Jake Koch's third three-pointer of the first half gave UNI a 21-18 edge with 5:24 on the first-half clock. But a putback jumper by WSU's Aaron Ellis and a 3-pointer by Clevin Hannah put the Shockers back on top, 23-21. The first half saw nine lead changes with the final one coming with two seconds on the clock as WSU's Demetric Williams buried a 3-pointer to give the Shockers a 31-28 half-time lead.

WSU eventually stretched its lead to six points at 39-33 with 16:24 to go in the game. But WSU would not score another field goal until the 4:14 mark when Hannah made a 3-pointer. The Panthers went on a 23-3 run during that 12-minute stretch and opened up a 56-42 lead over the second-seeded Shockers.

The Panthers kept the Shockers at a nine point margin or more the rest of the way and MVC Sixth Man of the Year Lucas O'Rear closed the scoring by banking in a 3-pointer with 8.1 seconds left to make it 67-52.

Wichita State (52)

#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
03	Hannah	37	4-8	0-0	6	1	1	12
14	Hatch	34	2-9	2-2	4	0	0	8
23	Murry	31	2-8	2-2	7	1	4	6
31	Durley	33	2-5	1-1	6	1	3	5
41	Stutz	19	4-10	2-4	6	2	4	11
00	Ellis	12	1-4	0-0	4	0	3	2
05	Williams	19	2-7	2-4	0	1	5	8
32	Blair	15	0-1	0-0	3	0	2	0
Totals		200	17-52	9-13	39	6	22	52

UNI (67)

#	PLAYER	MIN	FG-A	FT-A	REB	A	PF	TP
05	Farokhmanesh	23	2-7	0-0	3	2	0	5
11	Ahelegbe	28	5-10	12-14	5	0	2	24
13	Moran	23	1-4	0-0	2	0	1	3
34	Koch, A.	25	0-3	0-1	4	0	4	0
53	Eglseder	22	3-8	4-5	4	1	1	10
20	Koch, J.	21	5-7	0-0	2	2	0	13
22	Dunham	20	1-1	0-0	0	3	2	3
23	Sonnen	15	0-2	0-0	1	0	1	0
32	O'Rear	14	1-1	1-3	2	1	4	4
52	James	9	2-3	0-0	0	0	3	5
Totals		200	20-46	17-23	27	9	18	67

Halftime – WSU 31, UNI 28. 3-Pt. Shooting – WSU 9-24 (Hannah 4-7, Williams 2-5, Hatch 2-7, Stutz 1-2, Murry 0-2, Durley 0-1), UNI 10-20 (J. Koch 3-4, Ahelegbe 2-3, Dunham 1-1, O'Rear 1-1, James 1-2, Farokhmanesh 1-3, Sonnen 0-2, A. Koch 0-1). Turnovers – WSU 16, UNI 5. Blocks – WSU 2, UNI 7. Steals – WSU 0, UNI 9. Att. – 9,297.



ALI FAROKHMANESH

6-0, 195, SR., GUARD

IOWA CITY, IOWA (WEST/KIRKWOOD CC)

#5

- Leads squad with 67 three-pointers heading into the NCAA Tournament
- Earned Honorable Mention All-MVC honors
- Named the MVC Player of the Week for his efforts against Creighton and Old Dominion
- Scored 23 second-half points to set a career-high in UNI's 71-62 win over Old Dominion (2/19)
- Drained five 3-pointers and tied for team-high scoring honors with 17 pts vs. Creighton (2/16)
- Sank two 3-pointers from deep in the final 5:00 to help UNI to a 57-48 win at Drake (2/10)
- Tallied a team-high 14 points and drained 4 3-pointers in a 52-50 win over Bradley (1/12)
- Led the squad with 15 points in a 60-52 win at Creighton (12/29)
- His 15 second-half points helped Panthers to a 72-54 win over Wyoming (12/23)
- Scored a team-high 15 points and tallied a season-high four assists in an 82-65 win over Siena (12/12)
- His 3-pointer with 34.3 seconds left gave UNI the lead at 61-59 in a 63-60 win at Iowa State (12/2)
- Dove for a loose ball with 1:19 left vs. Iowa State - coach Jacobson credited it as a key play, as the Panthers were able to call a timeout and set up for his eventual go-ahead 3-point shot
- Reached double figures for the third time this season against Northern Illinois (11/28)
- Buried four first-half 3-pointers against DePaul (11/20)
- Led the Panthers in scoring vs. Blue Demons with 12 points (11/20)
- Connected on a trio of second-half 3-pointers to help UNI to a 71-65 win at Denver (11/13)
- Made all three free attempts, including two with five seconds left against Pioneers (11/13)

Farokhmanesh's Career/Season Highs

Points	
Career	23 vs. Old Dominion (2/19/10)
Season	23 vs. Old Dominion (2/19/10)

FG Made	
Career	7, twice
Season	6 vs. Old Dominion (2/19/10)

3FG Made	
Career	6 at Illinois-Chicago (11/19/08)
Season	5, three times

FT Made	
Career	6, twice
Season	6, twice

FT Att.	
Career	7 vs. Siena (12/12/09)
Season	7 vs. Siena (12/12/09)

Farokhmanesh's 2009-10 Game-by-Game

DATE	OPPONENT	FG-A	3FG-A	FT-A	O-D-T	PF	PTS	A	TO	B	S	MIN
11-13	*at Denver	5-9	3-7	3-3	0-2-2	3	16	0	1	0	0	29
11-20	*vs. DePaul	4-10	4-9	0-0	0-0-0	3	12	0	0	0	0	29
11-21	*vs. East Carolina	2-9	0-5	3-4	0-2-2	0	7	0	1	0	1	29
11-23	*vs. Boston College	1-1	0-0	0-0	0-1-1	4	2	0	0	0	0	19
11-28	*Northern Illinois	4-10	1-6	2-4	1-0-1	1	11	0	1	0	1	30
12-2	*at Iowa State	3-7	3-6	0-0	1-3-4	1	9	0	1	0	1	36
12-8	*Iowa	2-5	2-4	0-0	0-3-3	0	6	1	1	0	0	29
12-12	*Siena	3-6	3-4	6-7	0-2-2	2	15	4	1	0	1	31
12-19	*at North Dakota	3-5	3-5	2-2	0-0-0	1	11	1	2	0	1	23
12-23	*Wyoming	5-8	5-7	0-0	0-1-1	1	15	1	1	0	1	26
12-29	*at Creighton	4-11	3-8	4-4	0-1-1	3	15	1	1	0	1	32
1-1	*Evansville	1-2	1-2	0-0	1-0-1	0	3	0	0	0	0	25
1-3	*Missouri State	4-8	3-6	2-2	0-0-0	3	13	1	0	0	2	35
1-6	*at Southern Illinois	1-9	1-6	0-0	0-0-0	0	3	1	0	0	0	30
1-9	*at Illinois State	0-2	0-1	0-0	0-1-1	0	0	0	2	0	2	32
1-12	*Bradley	5-9	4-7	0-0	0-0-0	3	14	1	0	1	1	32
1-16	*Indiana State	2-5	1-3	0-0	0-2-2	2	5	0	0	0	1	26
1-19	*at Wichita State	3-13	2-8	2-2	0-2-2	2	10	1	1	0	0	36
1-24	*at Indiana State	3-6	1-3	2-2	0-3-3	2	9	3	1	0	0	35
1-27	*Drake	4-9	2-6	0-0	0-1-1	1	10	3	1	0	0	31
1-30	*at Missouri State	2-7	0-5	1-2	0-1-1	0	5	1	2	0	1	34
2-3	*Wichita State	2-6	2-5	1-2	0-3-3	1	7	1	2	0	1	27
2-6	*Southern Illinois	2-5	1-4	3-4	0-0-0	4	8	0	0	0	1	28
2-10	*at Drake	4-10	2-6	0-0	0-3-3	1	10	4	0	0	0	33
2-13	*at Bradley	4-11	4-11	2-2	0-1-1	3	14	1	0	0	0	31
2-16	*Creighton	5-10	5-10	2-2	0-0-0	1	17	1	1	0	0	32
2-19	*Old Dominion	6-10	5-9	6-6	0-2-2	1	23	2	3	0	1	31
2-23	*at Evansville	2-8	1-7	2-2	0-3-3	4	7	1	3	0	1	38
2-27	*Illinois State	2-7	1-4	0-0	0-0-0	2	5	1	0	0	2	35
3-5	*vs. Drake	2-10	2-7	0-0	1-2-3	4	6	1	0	0	1	33
3-6	*vs. Bradley	2-11	1-8	0-0	1-1-2	1	5	2	0	0	1	25
3-7	*vs. Wichita State	2-7	1-3	0-0	1-2-3	0	5	2	0	0	0	23

Rebounds	
Career	5 at Illinois State (2/24/09)
Season	4 at Iowa State (12/2/09)

Assists	
Career	5, twice
Season	4 vs. Siena (12/12/09)

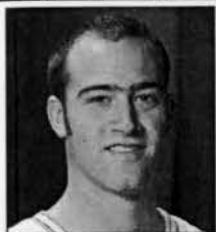
Steals	
Career	2, several times
Season	2, three times

Blocks	
Career	1 vs. Bradley (1/12/10)
Season	1 vs. Bradley (1/12/10)

Minutes	
Career	40 at Illinois State (2/24/09)
Season	38 at Evansville (2/23/10)

Farokhmanesh's Career Statistics

Year	G-GS	FG-FGA	Pct.	3FG-3FGA	Pct.	FT-FTA	Pct.	Reb.-Avg.	PF	A	TO	B	S	Pts.-Avg.
2008-09	34-34	108-266	.406	75-198	.379	36-46	.783	64-1.9	80	53	38	0	15	327-9.6
2009-10	32-32	94-246	.382	67-182	.368	43-50	.860	48-1.5	54	35	26	1	22	298-9.3
Totals	66-66	202-512	.395	142-380	.374	79-96	.823	112-1.7	134	88	64	1	37	625-9.5



BRIAN HAAK

6-1, 175, SR., GUARD
SPENCER, IOWA (SPENCER)

#10

- One of five seniors playing in their final home game vs. Illinois State
- Saw first action of the season in a 64-41 victory at North Dakota (12/19)
- Missed six weeks of action after undergoing foot surgery in early November
- Saw action in 24 games last season

Haak's 2009-10 Game-by-Game

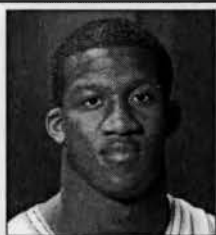
DATE	OPPONENT	FG-A	3FG-A	FT-A	O-D-T	PF	PTS	A	TO	B	S	MIN
11-13	at Denver	DNP										
11-20	vs. DePaul	DNP										
11-21	vs. East Carolina	DNP										
11-23	vs. Boston College	DNP										
11-28	Northern Illinois	DNP										
12-2	at Iowa State	DNP										
12-8	Iowa	DNP										
12-12	Siena	DNP										
12-19	at North Dakota	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
12-23	Wyoming	DNP										
12-29	at Creighton	DNP										
1-1	Evansville	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-1-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
1-3	Missouri State	DNP										
1-6	at Southern Illinois	DNP										
1-9	at Illinois State	DNP										
1-12	Bradley	DNP										
1-16	Indiana State	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
1-19	at Wichita State	DNP										
1-24	at Indiana State	DNP										
1-27	Drake	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1-30	at Missouri State	DNP										
2-3	Wichita State	DNP										
2-6	Southern Illinois	DNP										
2-10	at Drake	DNP										
2-13	at Bradley	DNP										
2-16	Creighton	DNP										
2-19	Old Dominion	DNP										
2-23	at Evansville	DNP										
2-27	Illinois State	DNP										
3-5	vs. Drake	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
3-6	vs. Bradley	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
3-7	vs. Wichita State	DNP										

Haak's Career Highs

Points	
Career	6 vs. Texas Southern (11/23/08)
Season	None
FG Made	
Career	2, several times
Season	None
3FG Made	
Career	1, several times
Season	None
FT Made	
Career	6 vs. Texas Southern (11/23/08)
Season	None
FT Att.	
Career	6 vs. Texas Southern (11/23/08)
Season	None
Rebounds	
Career	3, several times
Season	None
Assists	
Career	3 vs. Northern Illinois (11/9/07)
Season	None
Steals	
Career	4 at Indiana State (1/5/08)
Season	None
Blocks	
Career	1 vs. North Dakota (12/6/08)
Season	None
Minutes	
Career	20 vs. North Dakota (12/6/08)
Season	3, three times

Haak's Career Statistics

Year	G-GS	FG-FGA	Pct.	3FG-3FGA	Pct.	FT-FTA	Pct.	Reb.-Avg.	PF	A	TO	B	S	Pts.-Avg.
2005-06	Redshirted													
2006-07	9-0	0-2	.000	0-2	.000	0-0	.000	1-0.1	1	3	2	0	0	0-0.0
2007-08	26-0	14-31	.452	8-24	.333	6-9	.667	19-0.7	23	23	11	0	8	42-1.6
2008-09	24-0	5-20	.250	3-12	.250	8-10	.800	17-0.7	12	11	5	1	7	21-0.9
2009-10	6-0	0-1	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	1-0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0-0.0
Totals	65-0	19-54	.352	11-38	.289	14-19	.737	38-0.6	36	37	18	1	15	63-1.0



KWADZO AHELEGBE

6-2, 200, JR., GUARD

OAKDALE, MINN. (TARTAN)

#11

- Named Most Outstanding Player of the 2010 State Farm MVC Tournament
- Poured in 24 pts in leading UNI to a 67-52 win over Wichita State in MVC title game
- Leads the team with 86 assists heading into the NCAA Tournament
- Earned Honorable Mention All-MVC honors this year after second team honors last year
- Tallied All-Defensive MVC honors for the second straight season
- Scored 15 of 18 pts in second half of UNI's 59-56 win over Wichita State (2/3)
- Dished out a season-high six assists in a 67-58 win at Indiana State (1/24)
- Hit a jumper and a free throw in the final 30 seconds to lift UNI to a 52-50 win over Bradley (1/12)
- Named MVC Player of the Week (Dec. 14) after avg. 17.0 ppg in wins over Iowa and Siena
- Handed out a season-high tying four assists in the 82-65 win over Siena (12/12)
- Buried a team-high 20 points in leading UNI to a 67-50 win over Iowa (12/8)
- Knocked down two free throws with 15.6 seconds left to give UNI a 63-60 lead over Iowa State (12/2)
- Named MVC Player of the Week (Nov. 30) after averaging averaged 22.5 points and 3.5 rebounds, while shooting 73.9 percent from the field (17-of-23) in the two games vs. BC and NIU
- Named to the Paradise Jam All-Tournament Team, while averaging 16.7 ppg in three games
- Poured in a career-high 32 points on 14-of-17 shooting, including 3-for-3 from 3-point land in an 81-69 win over Boston College (11/23)
- Scored a team-high 18 points in a 71-65 win over Denver (11/13)
- Led a charge at the end of the first half with the Panthers trailing 21-15, he scored six of the team's final eight points including a driving layup to put the Panthers on top, 22-21, with 1:03 remaining before halftime against the Pioneers

Ahelegbe's 2009-10 Game-by-Game

DATE	OPPONENT	FG-A	3FG-A	FT-A	O-D-T	PF	PTS	A	TO	B	S	MIN
11-13	*at Denver	5-10	2-4	6-9	1-4-5	3	18	2	4	0	1	38
11-20	*vs. DePaul	1-4	1-2	6-11	0-2-2	0	9	1	5	0	1	32
11-21	*vs. East Carolina	1-4	0-1	7-8	0-1-1	4	9	3	3	0	0	27
11-23	*vs. Boston College	14-17	3-3	1-2	1-1-2	1	32	4	1	0	2	35
11-28	*Northern Illinois	3-6	1-1	6-10	1-4-5	0	13	2	5	0	1	35
12-2	*at Iowa State	3-13	0-1	4-4	0-4-4	3	10	3	4	0	1	35
12-8	*Iowa	8-12	1-2	3-5	0-4-4	2	20	2	1	0	1	31
12-12	*Siena	5-12	2-3	2-5	0-3-3	3	14	4	2	0	0	26
12-19	*at North Dakota	1-3	1-2	2-2	2-5-7	0	5	5	6	0	1	25
12-23	*Wyoming	3-9	0-1	2-3	0-3-3	1	8	1	1	0	2	34
12-29	*at Creighton	3-13	0-1	6-6	0-4-4	2	12	4	2	0	0	31
1-1	*Evansville	3-7	1-1	0-0	0-2-2	2	7	0	2	1	2	27
1-3	*Missouri State	2-9	0-2	0-0	0-0-0	1	4	1	1	0	0	21
1-6	*at Southern Illinois	2-6	0-0	3-6	0-2-2	3	7	3	2	1	0	28
1-9	*at Illinois State	3-12	1-5	6-8	0-1-1	1	13	4	4	0	1	30
1-12	*Bradley	3-10	0-2	3-4	0-1-1	1	9	3	7	0	3	31
1-16	*Indiana State	5-11	1-3	0-0	0-3-3	1	11	1	1	1	0	28
1-19	*at Wichita State	4-9	0-0	3-4	1-3-4	5	11	4	3	0	0	35
1-24	*at Indiana State	4-8	0-3	1-3	3-1-4	2	9	6	3	0	1	29
1-27	*Drake	4-9	1-3	0-0	0-2-2	2	9	1	2	0	0	25
1-30	*at Missouri State	2-7	0-2	0-0	0-3-3	3	4	3	5	0	0	24
2-3	*Wichita State	8-18	2-4	0-2	0-4-4	2	18	1	2	0	0	34
2-6	*Southern Illinois	3-12	0-1	4-6	3-4-7	2	10	3	6	1	0	32
2-10	*at Drake	1-5	0-1	0-0	0-5-5	2	2	4	3	0	0	31
2-13	*at Bradley	4-6	1-1	4-4	0-4-4	2	13	3	4	0	0	35
2-16	*Creighton	2-8	0-2	2-3	0-5-5	2	6	4	2	0	0	28
2-19	*Old Dominion	2-10	1-3	5-6	0-1-1	1	10	5	3	0	1	35
2-23	*at Evansville	0-2	0-1	2-2	0-0-0	4	2	1	2	1	0	18
2-27	*Illinois State	1-6	1-3	7-8	1-0-1	1	10	3	3	0	1	28
3-5	*vs. Drake	2-6	0-1	3-4	0-2-2	2	7	4	3	0	1	31
3-6	*vs. Bradley	2-8	1-2	0-0	2-4-6	3	5	1	0	0	3	23
3-7	*vs. Wichita State	5-10	2-3	12-14	0-5-5	2	24	0	2	0	2	28

Ahelegbe's Career Statistics

Year	G-GS	FG-FGA	Pct.	3FG-3FGA	Pct.	FT-FTA	Pct.	Reb.-Avg.	PF	A	TO	B	S	Pts.-Avg.
2006-07	30-4	25-70	.357	14-39	.359	14-22	.636	33-1.1	41	37	33	1	12	78-2.6
2007-08	Redshirted													
2008-09	34-34	124-300	.413	23-64	.359	130-167	.778	93-2.7	87	106	82	2	14	401-11.8
2009-10	32-32	109-282	.387	23-64	.359	100-139	.719	102-3.2	63	86	94	5	25	341-10.7
Totals	96-70	258-652	.396	60-167	.359	244-328	.744	228-2.4	191	229	209	8	51	820-8.5

Ahelegbe's Career/Season Highs

Points	
Career	32 vs. Boston College (11/23/09)
Season	32 vs. Boston College (11/23/09)

FG Made	
Career	14 vs. Boston College (11/23/09)
Season	14 vs. Boston College (11/23/09)

3FG Made	
Career	3, several times
Season	3 vs. Boston College (11/23/09)

FT Made	
Career	12 vs. Wichita State (3/7/10)
Season	12 vs. Wichita State (3/7/10)

FT Att.	
Career	14 vs. Wichita State (3/7/10)
Season	14 vs. Wichita State (3/7/10)

Rebounds	
Career	7, three times
Season	7, twice

Assists	
Career	7 at Bradley (2/3/09)
Season	6 at Indiana State (1/24/10)

Steals	
Career	3 vs. Bradley (1/12/10)
Season	3 vs. Bradley (1/12/10)

Blocks	
Career	1, several times
Season	1, three times

Minutes	
Career	43, vs. Indiana State (12/28/08)
Season	38 at Denver (11/13/09)



JOHNNY MORAN

6-1, 190, So., GUARD
ALGONQUIN, ILL. (JACOBS)

#13

- Leads the team in steals with 33 heading into the NCAA Tournament
- Poured in a season-high 17 pts in a 70-52 win over Creighton (2/16)
- Missed the second game of his career at Missouri State nursing a sore foot (1/30)
- Missed the first game of his career after 52 straight starts with an injured foot at Indiana State (1/24)
- His 7-0 mini-run turned a one-point deficit into a 69-63 lead vs. Missouri State (1/3)
- Posted a season-high 15 points in a 65-46 win over Evansville (1/1)
- Grabbed a season-high 8 rebounds in a 60-52 road win vs. Creighton (12/29)
- Scored 12 points in UNI's 82-65 win over Siena (12/12)
- Sank a season-high two 3-pointers in a 67-50 win over Iowa (12/8)
- Knocked down 4-of-10 from the field in scoring nine points in a 74-68 win over East Carolina (11/21)
- Dished out a season-high four assists in the win over the Pirates (11/21)
- Drilled a 3-pointer with 3:14 left to give UNI a 61-56 lead at Denver (11/13)
- Voted to 2008-09 Missouri Valley Conference All-Freshman Team

Moran's Career/Season Highs

Points

Career 22 at Creighton (1/6/09)
Season 17 vs. Creighton (2/16/10)

FG Made

Career 7, several times
Season 6 vs. Creighton (2/16/10)

3FG Made

Career 6, twice
Season 3 vs. Creighton (2/16/10)

FT Made

Career 6, twice
Season 5, twice

Moran's 2009-10 Game-by-Game

DATE	OPPONENT	FG-A	3FG-A	FT-A	O-D-T	PF	PTS	A	TO	B	S	MIN
11-13	*at Denver	1-6	1-4	1-2	0-3-3	4	4	1	0	1	2	33
11-20	*vs. DePaul	0-7	0-4	0-0	1-3-4	3	0	1	2	0	2	28
11-21	*vs. East Carolina	4-10	1-5	0-1	0-3-3	2	9	4	1	0	2	25
11-23	*vs. Boston College	1-3	0-1	0-0	0-2-2	4	2	1	0	0	1	16
11-28	*Northern Illinois	0-5	0-2	0-0	2-1-3	1	0	1	1	0	1	25
12-2	*at Iowa State	1-5	0-2	0-0	1-2-3	1	2	1	0	0	1	24
12-8	*Iowa	2-4	2-4	0-0	0-1-1	2	6	0	0	0	1	19
12-12	*Siena	5-8	2-5	0-0	2-3-5	2	12	1	1	0	1	31
12-19	*at North Dakota	2-8	1-5	1-2	0-0-0	1	6	1	2	0	0	19
12-23	*Wyoming	1-6	1-5	0-0	1-4-5	2	3	2	3	0	2	24
12-29	*at Creighton	1-6	0-4	1-2	1-7-8	1	3	2	0	0	1	31
1-1	*Evansville	4-7	2-4	5-5	1-4-5	1	15	0	0	0	1	24
1-3	*Missouri State	3-4	1-2	2-2	0-3-3	3	9	1	1	0	0	25
1-6	*at Southern Illinois	2-8	2-6	5-5	1-2-3	0	11	1	1	0	2	28
1-9	*at Illinois State	2-5	1-3	2-2	0-6-6	0	7	1	1	0	2	31
1-12	*Bradley	0-3	0-3	0-0	1-4-5	1	0	5	1	0	3	34
1-16	*Indiana State	4-6	2-4	1-2	0-1-1	2	11	2	3	0	2	23
1-19	*at Wichita State	1-3	0-2	1-2	1-3-4	2	3	2	1	0	1	29
1-24	at Indiana State	DNP										
1-27	*Drake	1-3	1-3	0-0	1-1-2	2	3	1	0	0	1	18
1-30	at Missouri State	DNP										
2-3	*Wichita State	0-2	0-1	0-0	0-0-0	4	0	2	0	0	1	21
2-6	*Southern Illinois	1-1	1-1	0-0	1-3-4	0	3	2	3	0	1	30
2-10	*at Drake	4-7	2-5	0-0	2-2-4	1	10	0	1	0	1	27
2-13	*at Bradley	0-5	0-5	2-2	2-2-4	2	2	3	1	0	0	27
2-16	*Creighton	6-10	3-7	2-2	0-1-1	2	17	0	0	0	1	28
2-19	*Old Dominion	2-5	1-4	0-0	2-3-5	1	5	3	2	0	0	30
2-23	*at Evansville	1-6	1-4	0-0	0-1-1	0	3	2	0	0	1	34
2-27	*Illinois State	1-7	1-3	4-4	0-7-7	2	7	2	2	0	0	34
3-5	*vs. Drake	3-7	2-5	0-0	0-4-4	0	8	1	1	0	1	29
3-6	*vs. Bradley	2-9	1-5	0-0	1-3-4	1	5	3	2	0	0	27
3-7	*vs. Wichita State	1-4	1-3	0-0	1-1-2	1	3	0	2	0	1	23

FT Att.

Career 6, twice
Season 5, twice

Rebounds

Career 10 vs. Denver (11/15/08)
Season 8 at Creighton (12/29/09)

Assists

Career 6 at Bradley (2/3/09)
Season 5 vs Bradley (1/12/10)

Steals

Career 4 at Evansville (1/13/09)
Season 3 vs. Bradley (1/12/10)

Blocks

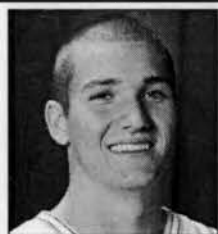
Career 1, several times
Season 1 at Denver (11/13/09)

Minutes

Career 41 vs. Indiana State (12/28/08)
Season 34, three times

Moran's Career Statistics

Year	G-GS	FG-FGA	Pct.	3FG-3FGA	Pct.	FT-FTA	Pct.	Reb.-Avg.	PF	A	TO	B	S	Pts.-Avg.
2008-09	34-34	96-253	.379	50-152	.329	44-59	.746	133-3.9	63	78	58	4	41	286-8.4
2009-10	30-30	56-170	.329	30-111	.270	27-33	.818	102-3.4	48	46	32	1	33	169-5.6
Totals	64-64	152-423	.359	80-263	.304	71-92	.772	235-3.7	111	124	90	5	74	455-7.1



JAKE KOCH

6-9, 255, R-FR., FORWARD
ASHWAUBENON, WIS. (ASHWAUBENON)

#20

- Posted 13 pts on 3-of-4 3-point shooting in MVC title game vs. Wichita State (3/7)
- Tallied first career double-double with 22 pts, 10 rbs at Evansville (2/23)
- Made all 10 free throws he attempted against Purple Aces (2/23)
- Blocked a career-high two shots in a 70-52 win over Creighton (2/16)
- Credited with seven rebounds in only 12 minutes of action at Bradley (2/13)
- Grabbed a career-high eight rebounds against Wichita State (2/3)
- Scored two buckets in paint in 1st half of Panthers 59-44 win at Illinois State (1/9)
- Contributed six points in eight minutes in UNI's 84-76 win over Missouri State (1/3)
- Drained his first two three-point baskets of his career in a 65-46 win over Evansville (1/1)
- Tallied two steals in 20 minutes against North Dakota (12/19)
- His dunk ignited the crowd and gave UNI a 73-58 lead en route to a 82-65 win over Siena (12/12)
- Credited with a season-high three assists in UNI's 67-50 win over Iowa (12/8)
- Notched a career-high three points off the bench in a 52-45 win over Northern Illinois (11/28)
- Scored two points and grabbed three rebounds in each of the three contests in the Paradise Jam
- Saw six minutes of action in a 71-65 win at Denver (11/13)
- Led the team with 10 total rebounds in exhibition action against Upper Iowa and UNC-Pembroke
- Averaged 7.0 points and 5.0 rebounds in exhibition action this season
- Scored eight points and grabbed five rebounds in a 79-44 win over UNC-Pembroke
- Tallied six points and five boards in a 67-39 triumph over Upper Iowa
- Drained a three-pointer in each exhibition game

J. Koch's Career/Season Highs

Points	
Career	22 at Evansville (2/23/10)
Season	22 at Evansville (2/23/10)

FG Made	
Career	5 at Evansville (2/23/10)
Season	5 at Evansville (2/23/10)

3FG Made	
Career	3 vs. Wichita State (3/7/10)
Season	3 vs. Wichita State (3/7/10)

FT Made	
Career	10 at Evansville (2/23/10)
Season	10 at Evansville (2/23/10)

FT Att.	
Career	10 at Evansville (2/23/10)
Season	10 at Evansville (2/23/10)

Rebounds	
Career	10 at Evansville (2/23/10)
Season	10 at Evansville (2/23/10)

J. Koch's 2009-10 Game-by-Game

DATE	OPPONENT	FG-A	3FG-A	FT-A	O-D-T	PF	PTS	A	TO	B	S	MIN
11-13	at Denver	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
11-20	vs. DePaul	1-2	0-0	0-1	1-2-3	1	2	2	0	0	0	13
11-21	vs. East Carolina	1-2	0-0	0-0	1-2-3	1	2	1	0	0	0	12
11-23	vs. Boston College	1-1	0-0	0-1	0-3-3	1	2	1	0	1	0	14
11-28	Northern Illinois	1-4	0-0	1-1	1-1-2	1	3	0	0	0	0	8
12-2	at Iowa State	0-1	0-1	2-2	1-0-1	0	2	0	0	0	0	10
12-8	Iowa	0-2	0-2	1-2	0-0-0	1	1	3	0	0	1	14
12-12	Siena	1-2	0-1	0-0	1-1-2	2	2	0	1	0	0	14
12-19	at North Dakota	0-1	0-0	1-2	0-1-1	1	1	2	2	1	2	20
12-23	Wyoming	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-1-1	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
12-29	at Creighton	0-1	0-0	0-0	1-3-4	1	0	1	1	0	1	15
1-1	Evansville	2-3	2-3	0-0	0-6-6	0	6	0	3	1	1	15
1-3	Missouri State	2-3	2-3	0-0	0-1-1	1	6	0	0	0	2	8
1-6	at Southern Illinois	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-1-2	3	0	2	1	1	0	11
1-9	at Illinois State	2-4	0-1	0-0	0-1-1	1	4	0	0	0	0	11
1-12	Bradley	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-2-2	2	0	0	1	0	0	8
1-16	Indiana State	2-3	0-0	1-2	1-2-3	3	5	3	2	0	0	16
1-19	at Wichita State	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
1-24	at Indiana State	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-1-1	1	0	1	1	0	0	11
1-27	Drake	2-3	1-1	0-0	1-1-2	2	5	0	0	1	0	13
1-30	at Missouri State	2-4	1-2	0-0	4-1-5	2	5	0	1	2	1	12
2-3	Wichita State	0-2	0-2	0-1	2-6-8	2	0	1	1	0	0	15
2-6	Southern Illinois	1-4	0-1	0-0	0-1-1	1	2	0	0	0	0	13
2-10	at Drake	2-3	1-1	0-0	0-2-2	1	5	1	0	0	0	12
2-13	at Bradley	0-2	0-2	0-0	2-5-7	1	0	3	1	0	0	12
2-16	Creighton	1-1	1-1	2-2	0-5-5	1	5	1	1	3	1	21
2-19	Old Dominion	1-2	1-1	1-2	0-4-4	2	4	2	0	1	0	19
2-23	at Evansville	5-10	2-4	10-10	4-6-10	1	22	0	0	1	1	27
2-27	Illinois State	1-3	0-0	2-2	3-0-3	1	4	0	0	0	0	11
3-5	vs. Drake	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-2-2	2	0	1	0	0	1	16
3-6	vs. Bradley	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-2-2	2	0	3	1	0	0	11
3-7	vs. Wichita State	5-7	3-4	0-0	0-2-2	0	13	2	0	0	2	21

Assists	
Career	3, three times
Season	3, three times

Steals	
Career	2, three times
Season	2, three times

Blocks	
Career	3 vs. Creighton (2/16/10)
Season	3 vs. Creighton (2/16/10)

Minutes	
Career	27 at Evansville (2/23/10)
Season	27 at Evansville (2/23/10)

J. Koch's Career Statistics

Year	G-GS	FG-FGA	Pct.	3FG-3FGA	Pct.	FT-FTA	Pct.	Reb.-Avg.	PF	A	TO	B	S	Pts.-Avg.
2009-10	32-0	33-71	.465	14-31	.452	21-28	.750	89-2.8	39	30	18	12	13	101-3.2



KERWIN DUNHAM

6-6, 200, JR., GUARD

BONDURANT, IOWA (BONDURANT-FARRAR)

#22

- Holds a 33-to-14 assist to turnover ratio heading into the NCAA Tournament
- Earned honorable mention MVC Scholar-Athlete team honors
- Buried all three 3-point shots he took in the 1st half of UNI's 61-55 win over Illinois State (2/27)
- His game-winning layup with 41.6 seconds left lifted UNI to a 55-54 win at Missouri State (1/30)
- Blocked a career-high two shots in a 67-51 win over Drake (1/27)
- Made his first start of the season (22nd career) in a 67-58 win at Indiana State (1/24)
- Scored a career-high 14 pts and was a perfect 4-for-4 from the field in the 1st half vs. the Sycamores
- Notched a season-high 2 steals in UNI's 59-44 win at Illinois State (1/9)
- Posted a season-high 10 points on 4-of-6 shooting in a 72-54 win over Wyoming (12/23)
- Dished out a career-high tying five assists in a 64-41 win at North Dakota (12/19)
- Made both of his shot attempts and scored five points in a 67-50 win over Iowa (12/8)
- Credited with the first block of his career in a 52-45 win over Northern Illinois (11/28)
- Grabbed a career-high tying four rebounds against DePaul (11/20)
- Came off the bench to play 25 minutes against Denver (11/13)
- Hit a pair of shots, including a 3-pointer in the 71-65 win at Denver (11/13)

Dunham's Career/Season Highs

Points
 Career 14 at Indiana State (1/24/10)
 Season 14 at Indiana State (1/24/10)

FG Made
 Career 5 at Southern Illinois (2/20/08)
 Season 4, twice

3FG Made
 Career 3, three times
 Season 3 vs. Illinois State (2/27/10)

FT Made
 Career 5, several times
 Season 4 vs. Evansville (1/1/10)

FT Att.
 Career 6 vs. Iowa State (12/3/08)
 Season 4 vs. Evansville (1/1/10)

Rebounds
 Career 4, several times
 Season 4 vs. DePaul (11/20/09)

Assists
 Career 5, twice
 Season 5 at North Dakota (12/19/09)

Steals
 Career 4 vs. Wichita State (1/3/09)
 Season 2, twice

Blocks
 Career 2 vs. Drake (1/27/10)
 Season 2 vs. Drake (1/27/10)

Minutes
 Career 37 at UMKC (12/19/07)
 Season 32, twice

Dunham's 2009-10 Game-by-Game

DATE	OPPONENT	FG-A	3FG-A	FT-A	O-D-T	PF	PTS	A	TO	B	S	MIN
11-13	at Denver	2-2	1-1	0-1	0-1-1	2	5	1	1	0	1	25
11-20	vs. DePaul	2-5	2-3	0-0	2-2-4	0	6	2	0	0	0	16
11-21	vs. East Carolina	0-4	0-3	1-2	0-1-1	2	1	1	0	0	0	23
11-23	vs. Boston College	0-2	0-0	1-2	0-0-0	2	1	2	1	0	1	25
11-28	Northern Illinois	0-2	0-2	0-0	3-0-3	1	0	0	0	1	0	19
12-2	at Iowa State	0-2	0-1	0-0	0-1-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
12-8	Iowa	2-2	1-1	0-0	0-0-0	0	5	1	0	0	0	18
12-12	Siena	1-3	1-1	1-2	0-1-1	2	4	2	1	0	0	16
12-19	at North Dakota	1-4	1-4	1-2	0-0-0	1	4	5	0	0	0	22
12-23	Wyoming	4-6	2-4	0-1	0-1-1	3	10	1	0	0	1	27
12-29	at Creighton	1-2	0-1	0-0	0-2-2	1	2	0	0	0	0	18
1-1	Evansville	2-4	0-2	4-4	0-0-0	0	8	3	1	0	0	18
1-3	Missouri State	2-3	1-2	2-2	0-0-0	1	7	2	1	0	0	28
1-6	at Southern Illinois	1-1	1-1	0-0	1-1-2	1	3	1	0	0	1	23
1-9	at Illinois State	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-0-0	2	0	2	0	0	2	18
1-12	Bradley	1-2	0-1	0-1	0-3-3	0	2	0	0	0	2	18
1-16	Indiana State	0-5	0-4	0-0	1-0-1	2	0	1	1	0	0	20
1-19	at Wichita State	0-2	0-1	0-0	0-0-0	2	0	0	0	0	0	14
1-24	*at Indiana State	4-5	2-3	4-4	1-1-2	0	14	2	3	0	0	32
1-27	Drake	0-2	0-1	2-2	0-2-2	0	2	0	0	2	0	18
1-30	*at Missouri State	1-3	0-1	0-0	0-3-3	0	2	2	0	0	0	32
2-3	Wichita State	1-4	1-3	1-2	0-1-1	1	4	0	0	0	1	26
2-6	Southern Illinois	1-2	0-1	0-0	0-0-0	2	2	0	0	0	1	18
2-10	at Drake	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-1-1	1	0	0	1	0	0	18
2-13	at Bradley	1-6	0-3	0-0	1-0-1	0	2	0	2	0	0	12
2-16	Creighton	2-2	2-2	0-0	0-0-0	1	6	1	0	0	0	16
2-19	Old Dominion	1-4	1-2	2-3	0-0-0	0	5	0	0	0	0	12
2-23	at Evansville	0-4	0-3	2-2	1-1-2	1	2	1	1	0	0	24
2-27	Illinois State	3-3	3-3	1-2	0-1-1	0	10	0	0	0	1	14
3-5	vs. Drake	1-2	0-1	0-0	0-1-1	3	2	0	0	0	0	18
3-6	vs. Bradley	1-3	0-1	1-1	0-0-0	0	3	0	1	0	0	18
3-7	vs. Wichita State	1-1	1-1	0-0	0-0-0	2	3	3	0	0	1	20

Dunham's Career Statistics

Year	G-GS	FG-FGA	Pct.	3FG-3FGA	Pct.	FT-FTA	Pct.	Reb.-Avg.	PF	A	TO	B	S	Pts.-Avg.
2006-07	Redshirted													
2007-08	32-17	46-109	.422	13-55	.236	32-40	.800	28-0.9	59	36	25	0	13	137-4.3
2008-09	34-4	40-93	.430	18-43	.419	31-38	.816	53-1.6	46	24	17	0	11	129-3.8
2009-10	32-2	36-95	.379	20-59	.339	23-33	.697	34-1.1	33	33	14	3	12	115-3.6
Totals	98-23	122-297	.411	51-157	.325	86-111	.775	115-2.2	138	93	56	3	36	381-3.9



MARC SONNEN

6-3, 185, FR., GUARD
ST. PAUL, MINN. (TARTAN)

#23

- Nailed 4-of-8 shots, including two 3-pointers in scoring 10 points vs. Bradley in MVC semis (3/6)
- Hit a pair of 3-pointers and tallied 9 pts in leading UNI to a 55-54 win at Missouri State (1/30)
- Shot the first free throws of his collegiate career at Missouri State - made 3-of-5 (1/30)
- Tied a career-high with five rebounds in a 65-46 win at Evansville (1/1)
- Drilled 7-of-8 threes in scoring 21 points to lead UNI to a 64-41 win at North Dakota (12/19)
- Handed out a career-high two assists and two steals in UNI's 82-65 win over Siena (12/12)
- Scored five points in a 67-50 win over Iowa (12/8)
- Led squad with five rebounds against the Hawkeyes (12/8)
- Credited with first collegiate assist in a 52-45 win over Northern Illinois (11/28)
- Scored five points in 20 minutes of action vs. Boston College (11/23)
- Came off the bench for five minutes of action in a 71-65 win at Denver (11/13)
- Grabbed a rebound and missed his only shot attempt against the Pioneers (11/13)

Sonnen's 2009-10 Game-by-Game

DATE	OPPONENT	FG-A	3FG-A	FT-A	O-D-T	PF	PTS	A	TO	B	S	MIN
11-13	at Denver	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-1-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
11-20	vs. DePaul	2-2	1-1	0-0	0-0-0	4	5	0	1	0	0	9
11-21	vs. East Carolina	0-2	0-2	0-0	0-1-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
11-23	vs. Boston College	2-3	1-2	0-0	0-1-1	2	5	0	0	0	0	20
11-28	Northern Illinois	0-3	0-3	0-0	1-0-1	1	0	1	1	0	0	10
12-2	at Iowa State	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
12-8	Iowa	2-2	1-1	0-0	1-4-5	1	5	0	0	0	0	13
12-12	Siena	0-1	0-1	0-0	1-0-1	1	0	2	1	0	2	10
12-19	at North Dakota	7-9	7-8	0-0	3-1-4	4	21	0	1	0	1	19
12-23	Wyoming	0-2	0-2	0-0	1-0-1	0	0	0	1	0	0	8
12-29	at Creighton	1-3	1-2	0-0	0-0-0	0	3	0	0	0	0	6
1-1	Evansville	1-4	0-0	0-0	2-3-5	2	2	0	1	0	0	14
1-3	Missouri State	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-2-2	2	0	1	0	0	0	8
1-6	at Southern Illinois	1-3	1-2	0-0	0-1-1	2	3	0	1	0	0	9
1-9	at Illinois State	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-0-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
1-12	Bradley	0-1	0-1	0-0	1-0-1	0	0	0	2	0	0	4
1-16	Indiana State	1-2	1-2	0-0	1-1-2	0	3	0	1	0	0	17
1-19	at Wichita State	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
1-24	at Indiana State	2-4	1-3	0-0	0-1-1	3	5	1	0	0	0	13
1-27	Drake	1-2	0-1	0-0	0-1-1	0	2	2	0	0	1	13
1-30	at Missouri State	2-4	2-3	3-5	0-0-0	1	9	0	0	1	0	17
2-3	Wichita State	0-2	0-1	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
2-6	Southern Illinois	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-1-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
2-10	at Drake	1-3	0-1	0-0	0-0-0	1	2	0	0	0	1	11
2-13	at Bradley	1-4	0-2	0-0	0-1-1	2	2	1	0	0	0	10
2-16	Creighton	1-1	1-1	0-0	1-0-1	2	3	1	0	0	0	10
2-19	Old Dominion	1-2	1-2	0-0	0-1-1	1	3	0	0	0	0	10
2-23	at Evansville	0-2	0-1	0-0	0-3-3	3	0	0	1	0	0	11
2-27	Illinois State	0-2	0-1	0-0	0-1-1	0	0	0	1	0	0	10
3-5	vs. Drake	1-2	0-1	2-2	0-0-0	0	4	0	1	0	0	9
3-6	vs. Bradley	4-8	2-3	0-0	0-0-0	2	10	1	1	0	2	18
3-7	vs. Wichita State	0-2	0-2	0-0	0-1-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	15

Sonnen's Career/Season Highs

Points	
Career	21 at North Dakota (12/19/09)
Season	21 at North Dakota (12/19/09)

FG Made	
Career	7 at North Dakota (12/19/09)
Season	7 at North Dakota (12/19/09)

3FG Made	
Career	7 at North Dakota (12/19/09)
Season	7 at North Dakota (12/19/09)

FT Made	
Career	3 at Missouri State (1/30/10)
Season	3 at Missouri State (1/30/10)

FT Att.	
Career	5 at Missouri State (1/30/10)
Season	5 at Missouri State (1/30/10)

Rebounds	
Career	5, twice
Season	5, twice

Assists	
Career	2, twice
Season	2, twice

Steals	
Career	2 vs. Siena (12/12/09)
Season	2 vs. Siena (12/12/09)

Blocks	
Career	1 at Missouri State (1/30/10)
Season	1 at Missouri State (1/30/10)

Minutes	
Career	20 vs. Boston College (11/23/09)
Season	20 vs. Boston College (11/23/09)

Sonnen's Career Statistics

Year	G-GS	FG-FGA	Pct.	3FG-3FGA	Pct.	FT-FTA	Pct.	Reb.-Avg.	PF	A	TO	B	S	Pts.-Avg.
2009-10	32-0	31-80	.388	20-52	.385	5-7	.714	38-1.2	36	10	14	1	8	87-2.7



LUCAS O'REAR

6-6, 255, JR., FORWARD
NASHVILLE, ILL. (NASHVILLE)

#32

- 1st player in MVC history to earn back-to-back Sixth Man of the Year awards
- Has grabbed at least two rebounds in each game this season
- Averaged 4.9 pts, 4.9 rbs, while shooting 55.7 percent from the field in MVC play
- Tied a season-high with 9 rbs in a 59-56 win over Wichita State (2/3)
- Posted 9 pts, 9 rbs in a 67-51 win over Drake (1/27)
- Scored 10 pts and added 7 rbs in 26 minutes vs. Indiana State (1/16)
- Scored 8 pts in a 52-50 win over Bradley (1/12)
- Dished out a career-high tying four assists in a 72-54 win over Wyoming (12/23)
- Latched on to a season-high eight rebounds in an 82-65 win over Siena (12/12)
- Posted season-best eight points in an 81-69 win over Boston College (11/23)
- Tallied four rebounds and three points in a 71-65 win at Denver (11/13)

O'Rear's Career Highs

Points
Career 13 vs. Wartburg (12/15/07)
Season 10 vs. Indiana State (1/16/10)

FG Made
Career 5, several times
Season 5 vs. Indiana State (1/16/10)

3FG Made
Career 1, several times
Season 1, twice

FT Made
Career 7 vs. Chicago State (11/25/08)
Season 4, twice

FT Att.
Career 8 vs. Chicago State (11/25/08)
Season 6 vs. Drake (3/5/10)

Rebounds
Career 11 vs. Bradley (1/21/09)
Season 9, twice

Assists
Career 4, several times
Season 4 vs. Wyoming (12/23/09)

Steals
Career 3, three times
Season 3, twice

Blocks
Career 3 vs. Southern Illinois (2/2/08)
Season 1, three times

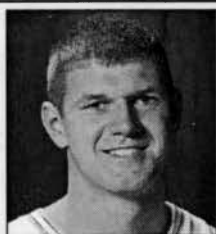
Minutes
Career 34, twice
Season 30 vs. Old Dominion (2/19/10)

O'Rear's 2009-10 Game-by-Game

DATE	OPPONENT	FG-A	3FG-A	FT-A	O-D-T	PF	PTS	A	TO	B	S	MIN
11-13	at Denver	1-3	0-0	1-3	0-4-4	1	3	0	1	1	0	15
11-20	vs. DePaul	1-2	0-0	0-0	2-2-4	0	2	1	0	0	0	21
11-21	vs. East Carolina	1-2	0-0	0-0	2-2-4	4	2	1	1	0	0	15
11-23	vs. Boston College	3-5	1-1	1-2	1-1-2	3	8	2	1	0	1	22
11-28	Northern Illinois	1-2	0-0	0-1	1-1-2	0	2	0	0	0	1	20
12-2	at Iowa State	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-1-2	2	0	1	1	0	1	13
12-8	Iowa	0-1	0-0	0-0	1-3-4	4	0	1	1	0	1	23
12-12	Siena	2-3	0-0	2-5	2-6-8	1	6	3	0	0	0	22
12-19	at North Dakota	1-1	0-0	0-0	2-0-2	1	2	1	1	0	1	17
12-23	Wyoming	1-3	0-0	0-0	3-1-4	0	2	4	0	0	1	25
12-29	at Creighton	2-2	0-0	2-2	1-5-6	3	6	1	1	0	0	24
1-1	Evansville	1-4	0-0	0-0	1-1-2	1	2	2	0	0	0	17
1-3	Missouri State	0-1	0-0	2-2	0-3-3	4	2	3	0	0	0	18
1-6	at Southern Illinois	2-3	0-0	2-3	1-3-4	2	6	1	1	0	0	15
1-9	at Illinois State	2-3	0-0	0-0	3-2-5	0	4	1	1	0	1	18
1-12	Bradley	3-6	0-0	2-3	2-1-3	3	8	0	1	1	0	20
1-16	Indiana State	5-7	0-1	0-2	2-5-7	3	10	1	0	0	0	26
1-19	at Wichita State	1-1	0-0	0-0	0-3-3	3	2	0	1	0	0	12
1-24	at Indiana State	2-3	0-0	0-0	2-4-6	1	4	2	0	0	1	18
1-27	Drake	4-6	0-0	1-1	4-5-9	3	9	0	1	0	0	20
1-30	at Missouri State	2-4	0-0	2-2	0-3-3	1	6	0	0	0	0	15
2-3	Wichita State	2-2	0-0	0-0	5-4-9	2	4	0	1	0	1	20
2-6	Southern Illinois	2-2	0-0	1-2	5-3-8	3	5	2	1	0	1	20
2-10	at Drake	2-5	0-0	4-4	1-1-2	2	8	1	0	0	0	19
2-13	at Bradley	1-1	0-0	2-2	2-4-6	2	4	0	1	0	2	19
2-16	*Creighton	1-7	0-1	2-5	1-4-5	3	4	1	1	0	1	21
2-19	*Old Dominion	3-4	0-0	1-2	2-4-6	2	7	1	0	0	3	30
2-23	*at Evansville	2-4	0-0	0-0	3-1-4	2	4	0	4	1	1	18
2-27	Illinois State	0-0	0-0	0-1	0-4-4	4	0	2	1	0	1	15
3-5	vs. Drake	2-4	0-0	4-6	4-4-8	3	8	1	0	0	0	21
3-6	vs. Bradley	2-3	0-0	0-0	1-3-4	1	4	2	0	0	3	18
3-7	vs. Wichita State	1-1	1-1	1-3	0-2-2	4	4	1	0	0	1	14

O'Rear's Career Statistics

Year	G-GS	FG-FGA	Pct.	3FG-3FGA	Pct.	FT-FTA	Pct.	Reb.-Avg.	PF	A	TO	B	S	Pts.-Avg.
2007-08	31-0	28-58	.483	2-16	.125	14-28	.500	70-2.3	48	22	17	9	10	72-2.3
2008-09	30-1	56-91	.615	3-9	.333	41-56	.732	157-5.4	77	36	28	14	25	156-5.2
2009-10	32-3	53-95	.558	2-4	.500	30-51	.588	145-4.5	68	36	21	3	22	138-4.3
Totals	93-4	137-244	.561	7-29	.241	85-135	.630	379-4.1	193	94	66	26	57	366-3.9



AUSTIN PEHL

6-10, 245, R-FR., CENTER
CEDAR FALLS, IOWA (CEDAR FALLS)

#33

- Saw his first collegiate action in a 67-50 win over Iowa (12/8)
- Grabbed two rebounds in one minute against the Hawkeyes (12/8)
- Scored six points and grabbed two rebounds in exhibition action this season
- Tallied four points and hit both free throw attempts in a 79-44 win over UNC-Pembroke

Pehl's Career/Season Highs

Points
Career None
Season None

FG Made
Career None
Season None

3FG Made
Career None
Season None

FT Made
Career None
Season None

FT Att.
Career None
Season None

Rebounds
Career 2 vs. Iowa (12/8/09)
Season 2 vs. Iowa (12/8/09)

Assists
Career None
Season None

Steals
Career None
Season None

Blocks
Career None
Season None

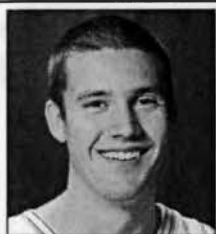
Minutes
Career 3 at North Dakota (12/19/09)
Season 3 at North Dakota (12/19/09)

Pehl's 2009-10 Game-by-Game

DATE	OPPONENT	FG-A	3FG-A	FT-A	O-D-T	PF	PTS	A	TO	B	S	MIN
11-13	at Denver	DNP										
11-20	vs. DePaul	DNP										
11-21	vs. East Carolina	DNP										
11-23	vs. Boston College	DNP										
11-28	Northern Illinois	DNP										
12-2	at Iowa State	DNP										
12-8	Iowa	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-2-2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
12-12	Siena	DNP										
12-19	at North Dakota	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
12-23	Wyoming	DNP										
12-29	at Creighton	DNP										
1-1	Evansville	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
1-3	Missouri State	DNP										
1-6	at Southern Illinois	DNP										
1-9	at Illinois State	DNP										
1-12	Bradley	DNP										
1-16	Indiana State	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1-19	at Wichita State	DNP										
1-24	at Indiana State	DNP										
1-27	Drake	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1-30	at Missouri State	DNP										
2-3	Wichita State	DNP										
2-6	Southern Illinois	DNP										
2-10	at Drake	DNP										
2-13	at Bradley	DNP										
2-16	Creighton	DNP										
2-19	Old Dominion	DNP										
2-23	at Evansville	DNP										
2-27	Illinois State	DNP										
3-5	vs. Drake	DNP										
3-6	vs. Bradley	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-1-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
3-7	vs. Wichita State	DNP										

Pehl's Career Statistics

Year	G-GS	FG-FGA	Pct.	3FG-3FGA	Pct.	FT-FTA	Pct.	Reb.-Avg.	PF	A	TO	B	S	Pts.-Avg.
2009-10	6-0	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	3-0.5	1	0	0	0	0	0-0.0



ADAM KOCH

6-8, 255, SR., FORWARD
ASHWAUBENON, WIS. (ASHWAUBENON)

#34



- Larry Bird MVC Player of the Year, First Team All-MVC
- MVC Scholar-Athlete of the Year
- One of 10 finalists for Lowe's Senior CLASS Award
- USBWA All-District Pick
- Invited to participate in Portsmouth Invitational Tournament in April
- Two-time Prairie Farms/MVC Scholar-Athlete of the Week winner this year
- One of 13 Panthers to ever reach 1,000 pts and 500 rbs in a career
- Holds UNI record for games played at 129
- Has made 98 consecutive starts heading into the NCAA Tournament
- Made 79-of-90 free throws in MVC play this season (87.8 percent)
- His 11-2 run in the final 3:11 rallied UNI to a 55-52 win over Southern Illinois (2/6)
- Buried 21 points and grabbed a career-high 4 steals against the Salukis (2/6)
- Led the Panthers in scoring with 16 in a 65-46 win over Evansville (1/1)
- Latched on to a season-high 8 rebounds in a 60-52 win at Creighton (12/29)
- Tied for team-high honors with 20 points in a 63-60 win over Iowa State (12/2)
- Limited ISU's Craig Brackins to 13 pts., 9 rbs. - no FG in final 28 minutes (12/2)
- Led the way with 15 points in a 52-45 victory over Northern Illinois (11/28)
- Sunk all five of his three-point attempts against East Carolina (11/21)
- Scored a season-high 25 points in 27 minutes against East Carolina (11/21)
- 2008-09 first team All-Missouri Valley Conference selection

A. Koch's Career/Season Highs

Points	
Career	30 at Missouri State (1/25/09)
Season	25 vs. East Carolina (11/21/09)
FG Made	
Career	8 at Iowa State (12/2/09)
Season	8 at Iowa State (12/2/09)
3FG Made	
Career	5 vs. East Carolina (11/21/09)
Season	5 vs. East Carolina (11/21/09)
FT Made	
Career	18 at Missouri State (1/25/09)
Season	9, twice
FT Att.	
Career	20 at Missouri State (1/25/09)
Season	10 vs. Northern Illinois (11/28/09)

Rebounds

Career	13 vs. Northern Illinois (11/9/07)
Season	8, twice

Assists

Career	6 vs. Northern Illinois (11/9/07)
Season	3, several times

Steals

Career	4 vs. Southern Illinois (2/6/10)
Season	4 vs. Southern Illinois (2/6/10)

Blocks

Career	3 vs. Bradley (3/7/09)
Season	2 at Iowa State (12/2/09)

Minutes

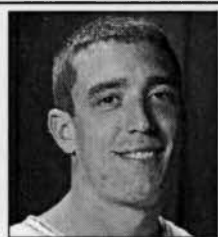
Career	41 at Illinois State (2/24/09)
Season	31 vs. Bradley (1/12/10)

A. Koch's 2009-10 Game-by-Game

DATE	OPPONENT	FG-A	3FG-A	FT-A	O-D-T	PF	PTS	A	TO	B	S	MIN
11-13	*at Denver	2-2	0-0	9-9	0-2-2	3	13	1	3	0	0	20
11-20	*vs. DePaul	3-8	0-2	3-4	1-4-5	2	9	2	1	0	0	25
11-21	*vs. East Carolina	7-10	5-5	6-9	4-2-6	3	25	2	2	0	0	27
11-23	*vs. Boston College	6-10	0-1	2-3	0-2-2	1	14	1	1	0	0	26
11-28	*Northern Illinois	3-7	2-3	7-10	3-4-7	1	15	0	1	0	2	28
12-2	*at Iowa State	8-13	2-4	2-2	2-5-7	4	20	3	2	2	1	27
12-8	*Iowa	4-9	0-2	2-7	1-3-4	2	10	1	1	0	0	24
12-12	*Siena	5-11	0-0	2-2	0-4-4	4	12	3	2	0	1	24
12-19	*at North Dakota	1-4	1-1	6-6	0-3-3	1	9	0	0	1	0	17
12-23	*Wyoming	3-11	0-2	0-0	0-4-4	1	6	0	3	0	0	21
12-29	*at Creighton	2-8	1-3	3-3	1-7-8	5	8	0	3	0	1	21
1-1	*Evansville	4-8	1-3	7-7	1-1-2	3	16	3	4	0	2	23
1-3	*Missouri State	6-8	1-1	5-7	1-4-5	2	18	3	3	0	0	25
1-6	*at Southern Illinois	3-4	1-2	4-5	0-5-5	3	11	3	1	0	0	28
1-9	*at Illinois State	4-6	2-3	5-6	0-3-3	2	15	2	0	0	2	24
1-12	*Bradley	2-9	0-1	4-4	1-1-2	0	8	1	3	1	0	31
1-16	*Indiana State	5-6	0-0	3-3	2-4-6	2	13	2	1	0	1	23
1-19	*at Wichita State	5-10	0-1	1-2	1-4-5	3	11	1	2	0	0	30
1-24	*at Indiana State	1-7	1-4	6-6	3-3-6	1	9	0	1	0	0	27
1-27	*Drake	4-7	0-2	6-8	0-4-4	2	14	3	1	0	1	26
1-30	*at Missouri State	3-5	0-0	4-5	1-5-6	2	10	1	1	1	1	28
2-3	*Wichita State	1-4	0-0	9-9	1-2-3	2	11	2	2	0	0	25
2-6	*Southern Illinois	5-11	3-6	8-8	0-4-4	1	21	0	4	0	4	28
2-10	*at Drake	4-11	2-3	2-2	3-5-8	1	12	1	0	1	0	28
2-13	*at Bradley	2-8	0-5	2-2	2-3-5	5	6	2	5	1	0	28
2-16	*Creighton	1-2	0-1	7-9	1-6-7	1	9	1	1	0	2	26
2-19	*Old Dominion	3-7	0-1	2-2	4-3-7	5	8	1	4	0	0	21
2-23	*at Evansville	6-11	1-3	1-2	1-4-5	5	14	0	4	0	0	24
2-27	*Illinois State	5-11	0-2	2-2	0-5-5	1	12	1	3	1	0	28
3-5	vs. Drake	3-8	0-1	4-4	2-5-7	1	10	4	3	0	0	24
3-6	vs. Bradley	2-6	1-3	2-2	4-2-6	1	7	2	1	0	0	25
3-7	vs. Wichita State	0-3	0-1	0-1	0-4-4	4	0	0	1	2	0	25

A. Koch's Career Statistics

Year	G-GS	FG-FGA	Pct.	3FG-3FGA	Pct.	FT-FTA	Pct.	Reb.-Avg.	PF	A	TO	B	S	Pts.-Avg.
2006-07	31-0	27-78	.346	2-24	.083	32-47	.681	68-2.2	38	12	24	5	6	88-2.8
2007-08	32-32	77-160	.481	5-26	.192	119-153	.778	184-5.8	67	53	64	6	21	278-8.7
2008-09	34-34	120-246	.488	14-45	.311	158-205	.771	173-5.1	89	67	71	15	17	412-12.1
2009-10	32-32	113-245	.461	24-66	.364	126-151	.834	157-4.9	74	46	64	10	18	376-11.8
Totals	129-98	337-729	.462	45-161	.280	435-556	.782	582-4.5	268	178	223	36	62	1,154-8.9



ADAM RODENBERG

6-6, 245, SR., FORWARD

GARNAVILLO, IOWA (CLAYTON RIDGE/UC-IRVINE)

#43

- Scored a season-high six points and grabbed three rebounds against Old Dominion (2/19)
- Played a season-high 12 minutes in a 70-52 win over Creighton (2/16)
- Grabbed a season-high two rebounds in a 64-41 win at North Dakota (12/19)
- Credited with a rebound in four minutes against Northern Illinois (11/28)
- Saw seven minutes of action and grabbed an offensive rebound in a 71-65 win at Denver (11/13)

Rodenberg's Career/Season Highs

Points

Career 14 vs. Loyola Marymount (11/9/07)
Season 6 vs. Old Dominion (2/19/10)

FG Made

Career 6 vs. Loyola Marymount (11/9/07)
Season 3 vs. Old Dominion (2/19/10)

3FG Made

Career 2 vs. Nevada (11/13/07)
Season None

FT Made

Career 3 vs. Nevada (11/13/07)
Season None

FT Att.

Career 4, twice
Season None

Rebounds

Career 6 vs. Wichita State (1/3/09)
Season 3 vs. Old Dominion (2/19/10)

Assists

Career 1, several times
Season None

Steals

Career 3 vs. Nevada (11/13/07)
Season 1 at North Dakota (12/19/09)

Blocks

Career 1, twice
Season None

Minutes

Career 39 vs. Nevada (11/13/07)
Season 12 vs. Creighton (2/16/10)

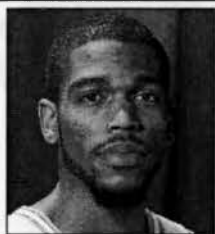
Rodenberg's 2009-10 Game-by-Game

DATE	OPPONENT	FG-A	3FG-A	FT-A	O-D-T	PF	PTS	A	TO	B	S	MIN
11-13	at Denver	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-0-1	1	0	0	1	0	0	7
11-20	vs. DePaul	DNP										
11-21	vs. East Carolina	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
11-23	vs. Boston College	DNP										
11-28	Northern Illinois	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-1-1	0	0	0	1	0	0	4
12-2	at Iowa State	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
12-8	Iowa	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
12-12	Siena	DNP										
12-19	at North Dakota	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-2-2	2	0	0	1	0	1	5
12-23	Wyoming	DNP										
12-29	at Creighton	DNP										
1-1	Evansville	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	2	0	0	0	0	0	3
1-3	Missouri State	DNP										
1-6	at Southern Illinois	DNP										
1-9	at Illinois State	DNP										
1-12	Bradley	DNP										
1-16	Indiana State	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1-19	at Wichita State	DNP										
1-24	at Indiana State	DNP										
1-27	Drake	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1-30	at Missouri State	DNP										
2-3	Wichita State	DNP										
2-6	Southern Illinois	DNP										
2-10	at Drake	DNP										
2-13	at Bradley	DNP										
2-16	Creighton	0-2	0-1	0-0	0-0-0	3	0	0	0	0	0	12
2-19	Old Dominion	3-3	0-0	0-0	1-2-3	4	6	0	1	0	0	10
2-23	at Evansville	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-1-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
2-27	Illinois State	DNP										
3-5	vs. Drake	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0+
3-6	vs. Bradley	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
3-7	vs. Wichita State	DNP										

Rodenberg's Career Statistics

Year	G-GS	FG-FGA	Pct.	3FG-3FGA	Pct.	FT-FTA	Pct.	Reb.-Avg.	PF	A	TO	B	S	Pts.-Avg.
*2007-08	6-6	16-35	.457	2-9	.222	7-9	.778	16-2.7	18	3	10	1	6	41-6.8
2008-09	22-0	12-25	.480	0-1	.000	6-17	.353	24-1.1	23	1	17	1	4	30-1.4
2009-10	14-0	3-7	.429	0-1	.000	0-0	.000	8-0.6	14	0	5	0	2	6-0.4
Totals	42-6	31-67	.463	2-11	.200	13-26	.500	48-1.1	55	4	32	2	12	77-1.8

*at UC Irvine



ANTHONY JAMES

6-0, 175, R-FR., GUARD
ST. LOUIS, MO. (NORMANDY)

#52

- Set his career-high with 8 pts in a 57-40 win over Bradley in MVC semifinals (3/6)
- Played a career-best 14 minutes in helping UNI to a 67-51 win over Drake (1/27)
- Tied his then career-high with 5 pts in the victory over the Sycamores (1/24)
- Drilled a 3-pointer and nabbed two steals in a 84-76 win over Missouri State (1/3)
- Set a career-high with two steals in a 64-41 win at North Dakota (12/19)
- Posted four points and made a steal in 11 minutes vs. Iowa (12/8)
- Scored a career-high five points against DePaul (11/20)
- Made his first collegiate three-pointer against the Blue Demons (11/20)

James's Career/Season Highs

Points

Career 8 vs. Bradley (3/6/10)

Season 8 vs. Bradley (3/6/10)

FG Made

Career 3 vs. Bradley (3/6/10)

Season 3 vs. Bradley (3/6/10)

3FG Made

Career 2 vs. Bradley (3/6/10)

Season 2 vs. Bradley (3/6/10)

FT Made

Career 1 at North Dakota (12/19/09)

Season 1 at North Dakota (12/19/09)

FT Att.

Career 3 at North Dakota (12/19/09)

Season 3 at North Dakota (12/19/09)

Rebounds

Career 2, twice

Season 2, twice

Assists

Career None

Season None

Steals

Career 2, three times

Season 2, three times

Blocks

Career None

Season None

Minutes

Career 14 vs. Drake (1/27/10)

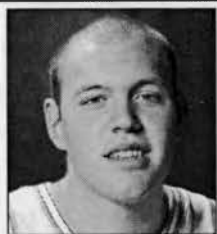
Season 14 vs. Drake (1/27/10)

James's 2009-10 Game-by-Game

DATE	OPPONENT	FG-A	3FG-A	FT-A	O-D-T	PF	PTS	A	TO	B	S	MIN
11-13	at Denver	DNP										
11-20	vs. DePaul	2-3	1-2	0-0	1-0-1	1	5	0	0	0	0	6
11-21	vs. East Carolina	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	2	0	0	1	0	0	8
11-23	vs. Boston College	1-2	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	1	2	0	0	0	0	5
11-28	vs. Northern Illinois	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-1-1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
12-2	at Iowa State	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
12-8	Iowa	2-5	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	2	4	0	0	0	1	11
12-12	Siena	1-2	1-1	0-0	0-0-0	0	3	0	0	0	0	7
12-19	at North Dakota	1-2	0-1	1-3	0-1-1	1	3	0	2	0	2	10
12-23	Wyoming	DNP										
12-29	at Creighton	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
1-1	Evansville	0-2	0-1	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	1	0	0	11
1-3	Missouri State	1-2	1-1	0-0	0-0-0	1	3	0	0	0	2	3
1-6	at Southern Illinois	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
1-9	at Illinois State	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-0-0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
1-12	Bradley	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3
1-16	Indiana State	0-3	0-2	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
1-19	at Wichita State	DNP										
1-24	at Indiana State	2-4	1-2	0-2	0-2-2	1	5	0	0	0	2	12
1-27	Drake	1-3	1-2	0-0	1-1-2	1	3	0	2	0	1	14
1-30	at Missouri State	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
2-3	Wichita State	DNP										
2-6	Southern Illinois	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	2	0	0	0	0	0	3
2-10	at Drake	DNP										
2-13	at Bradley	1-1	1-1	0-0	0-0-0	1	3	0	0	0	0	5
2-16	Creighton	1-1	1-1	0-0	0-1-1	2	3	0	0	0	0	6
2-19	Old Dominion	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
2-23	at Evansville	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
2-27	Illinois State	DNP										
3-5	vs. Drake	DNP										
3-6	vs. Bradley	3-4	2-2	0-0	0-0-0	2	8	0	1	0	0	9
3-7	vs. Wichita State	2-3	1-2	0-0	0-0-0	3	5	0	0	0	0	9

James's Career Statistics

Year	G-GS	FG-FGA	Pct.	3FG-3FGA	Pct.	FT-FTA	Pct.	Reb.-Avg.	PF	A	TO	B	S	Pts.-Avg.
2008-09	1-0	1-3	.333	0-2	.000	0-0	.000	0-0.0	0	0	0	0	0	2-2.0
2009-10	25-0	18-39	.462	10-19	.526	1-5	.200	8-0.3	22	0	9	0	8	47-1.9
Totals	26-0	19-42	.452	10-21	.476	1-5	.200	8-0.3	22	0	9	0	8	49-1.9



JORDAN EGLSEDER

7-0, 280, SR., CENTER

BELLEVUE, IOWA (MARQUETTE)

#53

- USBWA All-District Pick
- Invited to participate in Portsmouth Invitational Tournament in April
- Second-team all-MVC honoree this season
- Became 32nd UNI Panther to reach 1,000 career points
- One of 13 Panthers to ever reach 1,000 pts and 500 rbs in a career
- Led the Panthers with 14 pts in a 55-54 win at Missouri State (1/30)
- Secured 15th career double-double and 6th of the season with 11 pts, 10 rbs vs. Bradley (1/12)
- Earned double-double with 17 pts, 14 rbs in a 61-49 win at SIU (1/6)
- Notched double-double with 22 pts, 18 rbs in an 84-76 win over Missouri State (1/3)
- Made two big buckets down the stretch in leading UNI to a 60-52 win at Creighton (12/29)
- Poured in 28 points in a career-high 32 minutes against Wyoming (12/23)
- Blocked a season-high three shots in a 64-41 win at North Dakota (12/19)
- Named the MVC Player of the Week for his effort in leading UNI to a win over Iowa State
- Posted double-double with 20 pts/14 rbs in a 63-60 win at Iowa State (12/2)
- Notched double-double in a 74-68 win over East Carolina (11/21)
- Scored 19 pts and added 10 rebounds against the Pirates (11/21)
- Recorded a double-double in a 71-65 win at Denver (11/13)
- Tallied 12 pts/12 rbs against the Pioneers (11/13)
- Attended Pete Newell Big Man Camp over the summer in Hawaii
- First seven-footer ever to play at UNI

Eglseider's 2009-10 Game-by-Game

DATE	OPPONENT	FG-A	3FG-A	FT-A	O-D-T	PF	PTS	A	TO	B	S	MIN
11-13	*at Denver	5-11	0-1	2-6	6-6-12	1	12	1	2	0	0	22
11-20	*vs. DePaul	1-9	0-0	0-0	1-5-6	1	2	1	0	1	0	21
11-21	*vs. East Carolina	7-12	0-2	5-6	6-4-10	2	19	1	1	0	1	24
11-23	*vs. Boston College	6-10	0-1	1-2	3-2-5	4	13	0	1	0	0	18
11-28	*Northern Illinois	4-7	0-0	0-1	2-7-9	2	8	0	2	1	0	18
12-2	*at Iowa State	9-21	0-1	2-2	7-7-14	3	20	0	1	2	0	29
12-8	*Iowa	4-7	0-0	2-2	2-0-2	1	10	0	1	0	1	16
12-12	*Siena	6-7	0-0	2-3	4-5-9	3	14	0	3	1	0	19
12-19	*at North Dakota	1-2	0-0	0-0	2-2-4	0	2	0	1	3	1	17
12-23	*Wyoming	10-15	1-1	7-9	6-3-9	2	28	3	0	0	0	32
12-29	*at Creighton	4-5	0-0	3-4	0-4-4	3	11	2	0	1	0	20
1-1	*Evansville	3-7	0-1	0-0	2-7-9	2	6	0	1	1	0	18
1-3	*Missouri State	8-14	0-0	6-6	5-8-13	2	22	0	2	1	1	29
1-6	*at Southern Illinois	7-15	0-0	3-6	2-12-14	2	17	1	1	1	1	26
1-9	*at Illinois State	8-13	0-0	0-0	2-6-8	1	16	0	2	0	0	25
1-12	*Bradley	5-7	0-0	1-1	1-8-10	1	11	0	3	0	1	19
1-16	*Indiana State	2-5	0-1	0-0	1-5-6	2	4	0	0	0	0	11
1-19	*at Wichita State	6-9	0-0	2-4	2-5-7	3	14	2	1	2	3	34
1-24	*at Indiana State	5-7	0-0	2-2	0-7-7	3	12	1	5	3	0	23
1-27	*Drake	3-7	0-0	4-4	2-4-6	2	10	1	0	1	0	19
1-30	*at Missouri State	6-10	0-1	2-2	2-4-6	3	14	1	1	1	0	26
2-3	*Wichita State	5-10	0-0	5-6	3-1-4	2	15	0	2	0	1	20
2-6	*Southern Illinois	2-7	0-0	0-1	1-3-4	3	4	0	1	0	0	18
2-10	*at Drake	4-6	0-0	0-0	4-2-6	3	8	0	1	1	0	21
2-13	*at Bradley	4-11	4-11	2-2	0-1-1	3	14	1	0	0	0	21
2-16	Creighton	DNP										
2-19	Old Dominion	DNP										
2-23	at Bradley	DNP										
2-27	*Illinois State	5-10	0-0	3-4	2-4-6	3	13	2	0	1	1	25
3-5	*vs. Drake	5-8	0-0	0-0	2-4-6	1	10	1	0	0	0	18
3-6	*vs. Bradley	4-6	0-0	2-3	2-3-5	2	10	1	0	1	0	22
3-7	*vs. Wichita State	3-8	0-0	4-5	0-4-4	1	10	1	0	5	2	22

Eglseider's Career Statistics

Year	G-GS	FG-FGA	Pct.	3FG-3FGA	Pct.	FT-FTA	Pct.	Reb.-Avg.	PF	A	TO	B	S	Pts.-Avg.
2006-07	23-0	33-58	.569	1-2	.500	15-20	.750	49-2.1	20	0	12	8	1	82-3.6
2007-08	29-14	102-200	.510	9-25	.360	45-57	.789	158-5.4	49	22	40	38	6	258-8.9
2008-09	34-29	148-253	.585	2-15	.133	48-72	.667	219-6.4	61	22	44	44	5	346-10.2
2009-10	29-29	142-266	.534	1-9	.111	63-85	.741	211-7.3	59	19	35	28	13	348-12.0
Totals	115-72	425-777	.547	13-51	.255	171-234	.731	637-5.5	189	63	131	118	25	1,034-9.0

Eglseider's Career/Season Highs

Points	
Career	31 vs. Wyoming (12/13/08)
Season	28 vs. Wyoming (12/23/09)

FG Made	
Career	13 vs. Wyoming (12/13/08)
Season	10 vs. Wyoming (12/23/09)

3FG Made	
Career	1, several times
Season	1 vs. Wyoming (12/23/09)

FT Made	
Career	8 vs. Evansville (2/28/09)
Season	7 vs. Wyoming (12/23/09)

FT Att.	
Career	10 vs. Evansville (2/28/09)
Season	9 vs. Wyoming (12/23/09)

Rebounds	
Career	15 vs. Northern Illinois (11/9/07)
Season	14, twice

Assists	
Career	3, twice
Season	3 vs. Wyoming (12/23/09)

Steals	
Career	2 vs. Wartburg (12/15/07)
Season	1, several times

Blocks	
Career	5 vs. Wichita State (3/7/10)
Season	5 vs. Wichita State (3/7/10)

Minutes	
Career	34 at Wichita State (1/19/10)
Season	34 at Wichita State (1/19/10)



UNI Men's Basketball
Univ. of Northern Iowa Combined Team Statistics (as of Mar 08, 2010)
All games



RECORD:	OVERALL	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL
ALL GAMES	28-4	14-0	9-3	5-1
CONFERENCE	15-3	9-0	6-3	0-0
NON-CONFERENCE	13-1	5-0	3-0	5-1

#	Player	gp-gs	min	avg	Total		3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds				pf	dq	a	to	blk	stl	pts	avg
					fg-fga	fg%	3fg-fga	3fg%	ft-fa	ft%	off	def	tot	avg								
53	Eglseder, Jordan	29-29	633	21.8	142-266	.534	1-9	.111	63-85	.741	77	134	211	7.3	59	0	19	35	28	13	348	12.0
34	Koch, Adam	32-32	807	25.2	113-245	.461	24-66	.364	126-151	.834	40	117	157	4.9	74	4	46	64	10	18	376	11.8
11	Ahelegbe, Kwadzo	32-32	950	29.7	109-282	.387	23-64	.359	100-139	.719	15	87	102	3.2	63	1	86	94	5	25	341	10.7
05	Farokhmanesh, Ali	32-32	965	30.2	94-246	.382	67-182	.368	43-50	.860	6	42	48	1.5	54	0	35	26	1	22	298	9.3
13	Moran, Johnny	30-30	797	26.6	56-170	.329	30-111	.270	27-33	.818	22	80	102	3.4	48	0	46	32	1	33	169	5.6
32	O'Rear, Lucas	32-3	611	19.1	53-95	.558	2-4	.500	30-51	.588	55	90	145	4.5	68	0	36	21	3	22	138	4.3
22	Dunham, Kerwin	32-2	644	20.1	36-95	.379	20-59	.339	23-33	.697	10	24	34	1.1	33	0	33	14	3	12	115	3.6
20	Koch, Jake	32-0	416	13.0	33-71	.465	14-31	.452	21-28	.750	24	65	89	2.8	39	0	30	18	12	13	101	3.2
23	Sonnen, Marc	32-0	349	10.9	31-80	.388	20-52	.385	5-7	.714	13	25	38	1.2	36	0	10	14	1	8	87	2.7
52	James, Anthony	25-0	155	6.2	18-39	.462	10-19	.526	1-5	.200	2	6	8	0.3	22	0	0	9	0	8	47	1.9
43	Rodenberg, Adam	14-0	51	3.6	3-7	.429	0-1	.000	0-0	.000	2	6	8	0.6	14	0	0	5	0	2	6	0.4
33	Pehl, Austin	6-0	9	1.5	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	3	3	0.5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
10	Haak, Brian	6-0	13	2.2	0-1	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	1	1	0.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Team											39	54	93				5					
Total.....		32	6400		688-1597	.431	211-598	.353	439-582	.754	305	734	1039	32.5	511	5	341	337	64	176	2026	63.3
Opponents.....		32	6400		625-1549	.403	182-549	.332	305-442	.690	257	687	944	29.5	588	13	277	392	61	141	1737	54.3

TEAM STATISTICS	UNI	OPP
SCORING	2026	1737
Points per game	63.3	54.3
Scoring margin	+9.0	-
FIELD GOALS-ATT	688-1597	625-1549
Field goal pct	.431	.403
3 POINT FG-ATT	211-598	182-549
3-point FG pct	.353	.332
3-pt FG made per game	6.6	5.7
FREE THROWS-ATT	439-582	305-442
Free throw pct	.754	.690
F-Throws made per game	13.7	9.5
REBOUNDS	1039	944
Rebounds per game	32.5	29.5
Rebounding margin	+3.0	-
ASSISTS	341	277
Assists per game	10.7	8.7
TURNOVERS	337	392
Turnovers per game	10.5	12.3
Turnover margin	+1.7	-
Assist/turnover ratio	1.0	0.7
STEALS	176	141
Steals per game	5.5	4.4
BLOCKS	64	61
Blocks per game	2.0	1.9
ATTENDANCE	78981	132144
Home games-Avg/Game	14-5642	12-7730
Neutral site-Avg/Game	-	6-6564

Score by Periods	1st	2nd	Totals
Univ. of Northern Iowa	967	1059	2026
Opponents	806	931	1737

Date	Opponent		Score	Att.
11/13/09	at Denver	w	71-65	2082
11/20/09	vs DePaul	L	52-60	3117
11/21/09	vs East Carolina	w	74-68	1795
11/23/09	vs Boston College	w	81-69	531
11/28/09	NORTHERN ILLINOIS	w	52-45	4083
12/02/09	at Iowa State	w	63-60	14376
12/08/09	IOWA	w	67-50	6480
12/12/09	SIENA	w	82-65	5096
12/19/09	at North Dakota	w	64-41	1961
12/23/09	WYOMING	w	72-54	3102
* 12/29/09	at Creighton	w	60-52	17152
* 01/01/10	EVANSVILLE	w	65-46	4450
* 01/03/10	MISSOURI STATE	w	84-76	4666
* 01/06/10	at Southern Illinois	w	61-49	4679
* 01/09/10	at Illinois State	w	59-44	7755
* 01/12/10	BRADLEY	w	52-50	4892
* 01/16/10	INDIANA STATE	w	62-40	6778
* 01/19/10	at Wichita State	L	51-60	10506
* 01/24/10	at Indiana State	w	67-58	3407
* 01/27/10	DRAKE	w	67-51	6069
* 01/30/10	at Missouri State	w	55-54	9087
* 02/03/10	WICHITA STATE	w	59-56	6723
* 02/06/10	SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	w	55-52	6839
* 02/10/10	at Drake	w	57-48	7152
* 02/13/10	at Bradley	L	59-68	9887
* 02/16/10	CREIGHTON	w	70-52	5440
02/19/10	OLD DOMINION	w	71-62	7031
* 02/23/10	at U. of Evansville	L	54-55	4716
* 02/27/10	ILLINOIS STATE	w	61-55	7332
03/05/10	vs Drake	w	55-40	10830
03/06/10	vs Bradley	w	57-40	13814
03/07/10	vs Wichita State	w	67-52	9297

UNI Men's Basketball

UNI Combined Team Statistics (as of Feb 27, 2010)

Conference games

RECORD:	OVERALL	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL
ALL GAMES	15-3	9-0	6-3	0-0
CONFERENCE	15-3	9-0	6-3	0-0
NON-CONFERENCE	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0

##	Player	gp-gs	min	avg	Total		3-Point		F-Throw		Rebounds				pf	dq	a	to	blk	stl	pts	avg
					fg-fga	fg%	3fg-fga	3fg%	ft-fa	ft%	off	def	tot	avg								
34	Koch, Adam	18-18	473	26.3	63-136	.463	13-40	.325	79-90	.878	19	70	89	4.9	41	3	26	39	5	14	218	12.1
53	Eglseder, Jordan	16-16	355	22.2	77-143	.538	0-3	.000	36-46	.783	34	82	116	7.3	36	0	10	23	14	8	190	11.9
11	Ahelegbe, Kwadzo	18-18	515	28.6	54-158	.342	8-35	.229	41-56	.732	8	44	52	2.9	38	1	49	54	5	8	157	8.7
05	Farokhmanesh, Ali	18-18	572	31.8	50-138	.362	34-102	.333	21-24	.875	1	21	22	1.2	32	0	21	14	1	13	155	8.6
13	Moran, Johnny	16-16	444	27.8	31-83	.373	17-57	.298	25-28	.893	11	47	58	3.6	23	0	26	15	0	18	104	6.5
32	O'Rear, Lucas	18-2	335	18.6	34-61	.557	0-2	.000	20-29	.690	33	56	89	4.9	42	0	17	15	2	9	88	4.9
20	Koch, Jake	18-0	235	13.1	22-47	.468	10-22	.455	15-17	.882	19	44	63	3.5	25	0	13	13	9	7	69	3.8
22	Dunham, Kerwin	18-2	367	20.4	20-52	.385	10-34	.294	16-19	.842	5	16	21	1.2	15	0	15	10	2	8	66	3.7
23	Sonnen, Marc	18-0	189	10.5	12-40	.300	7-23	.304	3-5	.600	6	15	21	1.2	18	0	6	7	1	3	34	1.9
52	James, Anthony	14-0	83	5.9	6-17	.353	5-11	.455	0-2	.000	1	4	5	0.4	9	0	0	4	0	5	17	1.2
33	Pehl, Austin	3-0	4	1.3	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
43	Rodenberg, Adam	5-0	21	4.2	0-3	.000	0-1	.000	0-0	.000	0	1	1	0.2	6	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.0
10	Haak, Brian	3-0	7	2.3	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0-0	.000	0	1	1	0.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Team											22	30	52					1				
Total.....		18	3600		369-878	.420	104-330	.315	256-316	.810	159	431	590	32.8	285	4	183	195	39	94	1098	61.0
Opponents.....		18	3600		346-869	.398	100-308	.325	174-254	.685	130	385	515	28.6	321	-	151	201	36	80	966	53.7

TEAM STATISTICS	UNI	OPP	Date	Opponent	Score	Att.
SCORING	1098	966	* 12/29/09	at Creighton	w 60-52	17152
Points per game	61.0	53.7	* 01/01/10	EVANSVILLE	w 65-46	4450
Scoring margin	+7.3	-	* 01/03/10	MISSOURI STATE	w 84-76	4666
FIELD GOALS-ATT	369-878	346-869	* 01/06/10	at Southern Illinois	w 61-49	4679
Field goal pct	.420	.398	* 01/09/10	at Illinois State	w 59-44	7755
3 POINT FG-ATT	104-330	100-308	* 01/12/10	BRADLEY	w 52-50	4892
3-point FG pct	.315	.325	* 01/16/10	INDIANA STATE	w 62-40	6778
3-pt FG made per game	5.8	5.6	* 01/19/10	at Wichita State	L 51-60	10506
FREE THROWS-ATT	256-316	174-254	* 01/24/10	at Indiana State	w 67-58	3407
Free throw pct	.810	.685	* 01/27/10	DRAKE	w 67-51	6069
F-Throws made per game	14.2	9.7	* 01/30/10	at Missouri State	w 55-54	9087
REBOUNDS	590	515	* 02/03/10	WICHITA STATE	w 59-56	6723
Rebounds per game	32.8	28.6	* 02/06/10	SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	w 55-52	6839
Rebounding margin	+4.2	-	* 02/10/10	at Drake	w 57-48	7152
ASSISTS	183	151	* 02/13/10	at Bradley	L 59-68	9887
Assists per game	10.2	8.4	* 02/16/10	CREIGHTON	w 70-52	5440
TURNOVERS	195	201	* 02/23/10	at U. of Evansville	L 54-55	4716
Turnovers per game	10.8	11.2	* 02/27/10	ILLINOIS STATE	w 61-55	7332
Turnover margin	+0.3	-	* - Conference game			
Assist/turnover ratio	0.9	0.8				
STEALS	94	80				
Steals per game	5.2	4.4				
BLOCKS	39	36				
Blocks per game	2.2	2.0				
ATTENDANCE	53189	74341				
Home games-Avg/Game	9-5910	9-8260				
Neutral site-Avg/Game	-	0-0				

Score by Periods	1st	2nd	Totals
UNI	521	577	1098
Opponents	429	537	966

UNI IN SPORTS ILLUSTRATED (JAN. 25, 2010)



Photographs by GREG NELSON

COLLEGE
BASKETBALL

Iowa's Got a Secret

Methodical on offense and suffocating on the other end, **Northern Iowa** quietly has developed into a program that should be taken seriously come tournament time | BY ALBERT CHEN

Things to do in Cedar Falls, Iowa? Grab a bite at J's Homestyle Cooking. (The \$6.75 dinner special is recommended.) Hang out at the main watering hole in town, Beck's on College Street. Or catch a flick at the College Square Theatre, which is where Northern Iowa basketball starters Ali Farokhmanesh and Adam Koch spend a typical Friday night when they're not on the road. "We like to think of ourselves as Siskel and Ebert," says Koch, who as the Panthers' lanky, 6' 8" power forward would be the Siskel to the 6-foot Farokhmanesh's Ebert. The roommates, who by their count have screened more than 30 movies over the past three months, keep a tally of every flick they've seen, on an oversized posterboard taped to a basement wall in their off-campus house. "We score every movie on the chart and even color code them based on their ratings," says Farokhmanesh, who liked *Avatar* (he gave it a 9.4 out of 10) but was let down by the denouement in *The Book of Eli* (an 8.25). "Hey, it's Iowa," adds the senior guard. "You have to find ways to amuse yourself."

This winter the film geeks and the rest of the Northern Iowa basketball team are doing their part to bring some Hollywood-worthy drama to the snow-covered plains of the Cedar Valley. Last Saturday night, before a packed house of 6,778 at the McLeod Center, the Panthers steamrolled Indiana State 62-40 to improve to 16-1 and stretch their winning



DOUBLE PLAY
Eglseder (53) and Ahelegbe (11) are two of the key players for the play-happy, defensive-minded Jacobson (right).

NORTHERN IOWA

streak to a school-record 15 games. Not only have the Panthers whipped the competition in the Missouri Valley Conference (at week's end they were 7-0 in league play), they've also beaten teams from the ACC (Boston College), Big Ten (Iowa) and Big 12 (Iowa State).

And yet Northern Iowa—which finally cracked the Top 25 this week, debuting at No. 20—remains the best-kept secret in college basketball, under the radar even in its own basketball-crazed state: Until last Saturday night the Panthers had drawn a home crowd of more than 5,000 only twice (against Siena and the in-state rival Hawkeyes). Granted, the purple Panthers aren't a flashy bunch; they win games with a clock-chewing, screen-happy offense and a lockdown defense that turns many games into brickfests for the opposition. "Northern does a great job of keeping the game very slow," Illinois State coach Tim Jankovich said after his Redbirds scored 44 points and shot 38% in a 15-point loss to the Panthers on Jan. 9. "They do a great job of basically putting everyone to sleep."

Time for the country to wake up: The Panthers are one of the best mid-majors in the nation, a program that looks capable of rocking the NCAA tournament as George Mason did four years ago. "They're well-coached, they're well-balanced, they're ex-

GOOD NEWS

The success of Koch (34), Ahelegbe (11) and Lucas O'Rear (32) is starting to get the attention of UNI's students.

Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids; Kwadzo Ahelegbe, a point guard from Minneapolis; and Jordan Eglseider, a 7-foot center from Bellevue, Iowa, a hamlet 105 miles east of Cedar Falls. The core of the team is a tight-knit quartet of seniors who provide a balanced scoring attack—at week's end Eglseider, Farokhmanesh,

Koch and Ahelegbe were averaging between 13.1 and 9.2 points a game. Says Ahelegbe, "We just have that bone in our body where everyone's unselfish."

The confident and loose team ("They always play as if they're ahead," says McDermott) takes its personality from soft-spoken coach Ben Jacobson, a former UNI assistant who inherited the program in 2006 after McDermott left. "Coach Jake is never uptight," says Ahelegbe. "I can't even remember the last time he yelled at us—or if he ever has."

Last week, during the second half of a tight game at home against Bradley, the trigger-happy Farokhmanesh missed badly on an ill-advised 24-footer that would have made most coaches turn purple.

"We come into the huddle, and I know he has to say something after a shot like that," says Farokhmanesh. "He just looks at me and says, 'You might want to step in there, that's a little outside your range. That's more my range.'"

The Panthers have turned into a Missouri Valley juggernaut thanks to a stifling defense—one "predicated on guarding the dribble," according to Jacobson—and

an offense that keeps opponents off-balance with a dizzying assortment of plays. A typical team runs 15 to 20 plays during the season; the Panthers have more than 100. Jacobson tries to script the opening five to 10 minutes of a game. "Like a football team would do," he says. "The other team takes away the dive [play], then you make your adjustment."

For the Panthers, keeping track of all the plays can be daunting, even for a starting five that includes three seniors. "Coach was a valedictorian in his high school," says Farokhmanesh, "so maybe he just assumes we can just memorize all of them."

The valedictorian—he graduated first in his class of 36 in Mayville, N.D. ("My dad was the principal, so that certainly helped," Jacobson says jokingly)—is a numbers-savvy coach attuned to the efficiency statistics that are changing the way college basketball analysts look at team performance. The numbers explain why the Panthers are so improved from last season, when they went 23-11 and 14-4 in the Missouri Valley and earned their first invitation to the NCAA tournament in three years. Last season Northern Iowa ranked 122nd in the country in defensive efficiency (987), a measure of points allowed per possession. At week's end this year's team ranked 21st in the nation (.886), a figure that has been trending downward all season. "The numbers back it up: We're getting stronger and stronger by the week," says Jacobson.

No Panther has made a bigger leap than Eglseider, the gentle giant whose teammates

"We just have that bone in our body where everyone's unselfish," Ahelegbe says of the Panthers.

howl like Chewbacca when he enters a room and who is endearingly called Sasquatch. The team leader in rebounding (8.5 per game) as well as the second-leading scorer (12.6 points), Eglseider has stayed healthy for the first time in his four years as a Panther, because of a new commitment to conditioning. (He was slowed by back and foot injuries in each of his first three seasons.) After a game earlier this year an assistant from an opposing team told Jacobson he was blown away by how much Eglseider has improved. "He reminds me of [former Central Michigan center] Chris Kaman, how much better he got his

PHOTO: JEFFREY M. HARRIS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

eye of the UNI staff. "There was his size, of course, but he had soft hands and a nice shooting touch."

A few days after the camp Eglseider got a call: To his shock, UNI—a struggling program that had little to lose by taking risks on projects such as Eglseider—was offering him a scholarship. "I was like, Let me think about this," he recalls. "No other schools have shown any interest in me. I'm fat. I'm slow. And, let's be honest, I'm not very good. O.K., sign me up!"

Last summer Eglseider attended the Pete Newell Big Man Camp in Hawaii, where, according to Jacobson, the coaches and scouts "reinforced that he needed to get in better shape if he wants to play at the next level. They told him they really liked his ability to score, but he had to get in better shape. And I think it hit home."

When Eglseider returned to Cedar Falls, he started showing up for daily workouts with Koch at 6 a.m. He revamped his diet—"He used to eat everything," says Koch, "but now he'll spend 45 minutes cooking fish and vegetables and healthy food we want no part of"—and has since dropped nearly 30 pounds to his current weight of 272. "He's so much stronger than he

ing. "Kaman runs a little bit better, but he's not as big as Jordan is."

Eglseider has come a long way since the day he pledged to the Panthers eight years ago. When he arrived at the Big Man Camp for high schoolers on the Northern Iowa campus in the summer of 2002, Eglseider was a 6' 7" sophomore-to-be, an admittedly clumsy teen who had seen all of 30 seconds of action in his freshman season at Marquette High in Bellevue. "He was very raw," says Jacobson of the then 14-year-old who caught

was, but it's also easy to forget he's just 21," says Jacobson. "In 2½, three years, when that body finally catches up, watch out. I think he's going to be terrific."

Northern Iowa's appearance in last year's NCAA tournament was short-lived: a 12 seed, the Panthers were bounced by Purdue 61-56. The players describe their experience of walking into the Rose Garden in Portland to face the Boilermakers as if they were the Hickory High boys in *Hoosiers*, stepping wide-eyed into the cavernous site of the state finals for the first time. "Big arena, packed house, we were a little overwhelmed in that first half, just happy to be there," says Koch. The Panthers fell behind by 12 at halftime and never recovered.

Barring a collapse, Northern Iowa will be headed back to the NCAA tournament again this spring. "We've had some great moments in the history of the program," says Jacobson. "Norm Stewart coached some great teams in the 1960s in Division II. Jim Berry took the team from Division II to Division I. In 1990 the team upset Missouri in the first round [of the NCAA tournament]. There have been [isolated] moments. We want to

WHO KNEW? Surprised when the Panthers offered, Eglseider has worked hard to become a dominant center.



perienced," says former UNI and current Iowa State coach Greg McDermott, whose Cyclones lost to the Panthers 63-60 in Ames on Dec. 2. "I think people are quickly realizing that is a team that's no fun to face."

The Panthers aren't a lot of fun for the visiting announcers, either. The starting lineup includes Farokhmanesh, an Iowa City native who two years ago transferred from



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UNI IN THE SPORTING NEWS (MARCH 1, 2010)

NORTHERN IOWA PANTHERS

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HOW WE COULD WRECK YOUR BRACKET



By coach Ben Jacobson

Mostly it's the confidence the players have in each other. Because they are an experienced group, I don't feel like I have to do everything. If we get behind a couple of points, I don't feel like from a coaching standpoint I have to invent some trick play that's going to be worth seven points and win the game for us.
—As told to Mike DeCourcy

PAST FORWARD: A star basketball alum takes stock of the current team

Jason Reese played at Northern Iowa from 1985-90 and scored 16 points in the Panthers' 1990 NCAA Tournament upset of Missouri. He is UNI's all-time leading scorer.

- This is the best Northern Iowa team since... I'd have to say they're the best ever with the way they play on the road. That's just an aside of how good they are on the road. That baffles me.
- The last time I went to a game at McLeod Center was... I make it up to Cedar Falls about four or five times a year, and they'll be playing here in Des Moines against Drake, so I always tell that game. I was up there for the Missouri State game (an 84-75 win).
- My favorite player on this year's team is... Jordan Eylander would probably be my favorite because he's a big guy and I was a big guy, and it's nice to see them have a capable big guy at center now.
- One thing most people don't know about being a Panther is... We've been the best team in the state for about six years running. That's kind of a special thing to know because it normally goes Iowa State, and then it's a Drake or UNI draw usually.
- Fearless forecast... I look at every team from 15 on down, and I think we're as good or better than any of them. It's real important for us to get a 3 seed or better. If they can get a 5 seed, I'm looking forward to them getting to the Sweet 16.

—As told to Ken Bradley

ALL-SEC FUTURE: Senior guard Remya DeShields, junior guard Brian Black, freshman guard Anthony James, freshman forward D.J. Clark, freshman guard Mark Merriman, freshman center Austin Prohl, freshman guard B.J. Day, senior transfer forward Braden Smith, freshman guard Marc Bonner.

Photo by Matthew Putney for SN
Text by Mike DeCourcy

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THE HUSTLER: Junior forward Lucas O'Hear doesn't start, doesn't score much—and might be the most popular player on the team. Fans react to his entrance into the game as though it were Rome coming off the horse. "He plays with a reckless abandon," coach Ben Jacobson says. "That's that way when we get on the bus; he's that way when we're in the game. Our team has taken on his personality."

MINNESOTA PIPELINE: Junior point guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe comes from the same school—Tartan High in Oshtemo, Minn.—that sent stars Eric Coleman and Erik Green to Northern Iowa. "I think we play a similar style," Tartan coach Mark Hingppon says. "Defense is one of the things we're kind of known for. Each one of those guys went to UNI for their own special reasons, but they were the right reasons."

FIVE GUYS YOU NEED TO KNOW ... AND ONE THING WE THINK IS PRETTY INTERESTING

SHUTDOWN GUARD: Opponents already know playing offense will be a hassle when facing UNI, but the guy they really don't want to see in their gut is sophomore Jeremy Monson. He usually draws the game's first stoppage. "He's a winner," says Evansville coach Marty Simmons, whose team scored just 46 points against the Panthers in a January loss. "He just even parries what they seem to do about. He's a great defender—he understands who he is, plays within himself, plays extremely hard."

MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED: If senior power forward Adam Koch doesn't find a lucrative enough situation as a pro player, he'll go to grad school and get some mismanagement of his dad's old carbon-acid-drink performance with his dad. "He's based into everything, academics, taking care of his body, doing the right stuff, practicing the same level every day," Jacobson says. "He does all aspects of this at as high a level as I've ever seen."

SIDE OUT: Senior shooting guard Ali Farkhmanesh's father was a member of Iran's national volleyball team, and his mother has been head volleyball coach at Washington State and Iowa. In private, Ali kicks. He can hit 5-pointers volleyball style—using his finger tips like a racket. "I used to play balloon volleyball when I was 2 or 3," he says. "Once I started going to basketball camps, this seemed like the right sport. My dad always says that I have good set-up hands. I think I made the right choice."

TEAM PLAYER: Senior center Jordan Eglander is a skilled 7-footer, gives the Panthers an inside presence most teams lack. But ask for his most memorable moment from last year's NCAA Tournament game against Purdue and he mentions Farkhmanesh crossing over elite defender Chris Kaman and scoring on funky 3-pointers—potentially huge basketball—aided by a charging call. Eglander says: "That was one of the most amazing plays I've ever seen."

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Is This Heaven? No, It's Iowa.
Posted on February 20, 2010 12:36 am
Edited on February 20, 2010 3:40 am

By C.M. Tomlin
11:10 PM



If there was supposed to be a giant onslaught of awful winter weather, we didn't get the memo. But it's apparently sitting right on top of our heads. And collecting at an alarming rate.

No one in Cedar Falls seems to be bothered much by it, though. As it is, snowy roads had us rolling into the McLeod Center just in time to catch Northern

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Katz's Korner: Ben Jacobson
Published: Wednesday, 02/23 PM ET Duration: 02:52



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Northern Iowa has much in reserve



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Originally Published: March 7, 2010

Panthers have eyes on a bigger prize

Northern Iowa's first-round foe could be in for an unpleasant surprise

By Pat Forde
ESPN.com

ST. LOUIS — When the NCAA tournament pairings roll out next Sunday night, some luckless team is going to draw a mid-major opponent that poses high-major problems. It will draw Northern Iowa.

The Panthers may not look like much in a bracket, or even in a layup line. But that changes at tipoff.

Some "name" team will draw an opponent skilled in the art of strangulation defense. An opponent dedicated to frustration tempo. An opponent that cares for the basketball as if it were made of platinum. An opponent with plenty of size and height in this low post. An opponent that's deeper than Karl Lagerfeld and better balanced than Comanche. An opponent with eight juniors and seniors. An opponent with a rising star of a coach. And an opponent that has danced before, learning from the experience.

In other words, that name team will draw a first-round knockout.

"They'll win games in the NCAA tournament," said Wichita State coach Gregg Marshall, who has beaten two seven-time NCAA champions while at Western. "There'll win at least one, if not

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KOCH NAMED FINALIST FOR LOWE'S SENIOR CLASS AWARD

University of Northern Iowa senior Adam Koch (Ashwaubenon, Wis.) has been named one of 10 male finalists for the 2009-10 Lowe's Senior CLASS Award.

Twenty NCAA® men's and women's basketball student-athletes who excel both on and off the court were tabbed as finalists for the 2009-10 Lowe's Senior CLASS Award in the two basketball divisions.

To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must be classified as an NCAA Division I senior and have notable achievements in four areas of excellence - classroom, character, community and competition.

An acronym for Celebrating Loyalty and Achievement for Staying in School, the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award focuses on the total student-athlete and encourages students to use their platform in athletics to make a positive impact as leaders in their communities. The finalists were chosen by a media committee from the list of 30 men's candidates and 30 women's candidates who were announced in October.

Nationwide balloting begins immediately to determine the winner. Lowe's, an official Corporate Partner of the NCAA, will announce the Senior CLASS Award winners during the 2010 NCAA Men's and Women's Final Fours in early April.

The 2009-10 men's finalists are: Matt Bouldin, Gonzaga University; Da'Sean Butler, West Virginia University; Marquis Hall, Lehigh University; Luke Harangody, University of Notre Dame; Damion James, University of Texas at Austin; Adam Koch, University of Northern Iowa; Chris Kramer, Purdue University; Raymar Morgan, Michigan State University; Jon Scheyer, Duke University; and Josh Young, Drake University.

The women's finalists for 2009-10 are: Jayne Appel, Stanford University; Amy Beggin, University of New Mexico; Joy Cheek, Duke University; Alysha Clark, Middle Tennessee State University; Tyra Grant, Pennsylvania State University; Kelsey Griffin, University of Nebraska, Lincoln; Allison Hightower, Louisiana State University; Ashley Houts, University of Georgia; Ashley Sweat, Kansas State University; and Bianca Thomas, University of Mississippi.

These 20 names will be placed on the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award basketball ballot for a nationwide vote beginning today and concluding March 22. Fan balloting will be available on the award's official Web site, <http://www.seniorCLASSaward.com>, as well as through text messaging. Fans can text MBBALL to 74567 to vote for men's finalists and WBBALL to 74567 to vote for women's finalists. These votes will be combined with votes from coaches and media to determine the recipient of the award.

2010 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship



UNI men's basketball: The state's team of the decade

Updated 5:52 pm

By Andrew Logue • alogue@dmreg.com •
February 9, 2010

The decade began with Northern Iowa seeking basketball respectability.

It ends in a purple-and-gold reign of dominance.

Beginning with the 2000-01 season, the Panthers have set a state-wide pace, winning more games (177), posting a higher winning percentage (58.2) and earning more NCAA Tournament invitations (4) than Iowa, Iowa State and Drake.

Skeptics may debate strength of schedule when dissecting those numbers, but Northern Iowa enters Wednesday night's showdown with Drake at the Knapp Center with a No. 19 ranking, a three-game lead in the Missouri Valley Conference and an inside track to their fifth NCAA bid in seven years.

"One might ask, 'How strong is the Northern Iowa brand?' " Valley commissioner Doug Elgin said when discussing the Panthers' postseason resume. "That's a program over the last six years that has as many NCAA Tournament appearances in our league as any other. That borders on being a dynasty when you put this year in with it."

The foundation for that success, including the Panthers' 21-2 record this season, is a long-term vision, continuity and a little good fortune.

Tipping off a revival

The seeds of Northern Iowa's renaissance were planted in 1999, when former athletic director Rick Hartzell attended his first game in the 10,000-seat UNI-Dome. He counted 228 spectators.

"The thing needed a massive overhaul," Hartzell said of a basketball program in the midst of 9-18 season.

The Panthers dipped to 7-24 in 2000-01 — while Iowa State (25-6) and Iowa (23-12) both appeared in the NCAA Tournament — prompting Hartzell to make a coaching change.

"I just felt like the way Northern Iowa had success in

every other sport was to have Iowa kids, or kids within a 5-hour radius," Hartzell said. "I knew that's what the base of the program needed to be, and finding the right guy to do it."

Hartzell hired Greg McDermott, a former Panther player with a 131-64 coaching record at Wayne State and North Dakota State.

Together, they created a master plan of what Northern Iowa could become.

"One of the things I wanted to be was the Tulsa of the North," Hartzell said, "because if you remember, back in the day, Tulsa had all kinds of great coaches who went through there."

The transition

McDermott posted a 90-63 record at his alma mater, with NCAA appearances in 2004, '05 and '06.

When he left for Iowa State in 2006, Hartzell promoted assistant Ben Jacobson. In doing so, Hartzell was aiming for stability instead of making a splash.

"I knew we could get a bigger name," Hartzell said. "It really wasn't that hard a decision. I had seen (Jacobson). I watched him. I'd been with him.

"I can't honestly say I knew he would be this good, but I knew he would be really good."

Jacobson's hiring brought piece of mind to the returning players.

"He's got a little different style than coach Mack, but

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we knew he was going to do a lot of the same things," said Brooks McKowen, the Panthers' point guard during the transition. "The terminology is the same. You don't have to learn a new playbook."

Jacobson was also able to maintain a recruiting class that featured current starters Adam Koch, Kwadzo Ahelegbe and Jordan Eglseider.

"When I found out (McDermott) was leaving, what I ended up hearing from everybody else was all the players were staying and a lot of the staff was staying," Koch recalled. "So we were still comfortable with where the program was going to be."

Iowa and Iowa State, meanwhile, have been plagued by player defections in recent years.

"Any time you have a coaching change, you run the risk of what happened here when I took the job," McDermott said of the Cyclones. "Some guys are going to leave, or some recruits are going to make a decision not to honor their letters of intent."

Rising to the top

Jacobson led Northern Iowa to records of 18-13 and 18-14 in his first two seasons — while Iowa and Iowa State averaged 14.3 wins — then produced a 23-11 finish last spring, capturing the school's first regular-season title in the Valley.

The Panthers can pull with a victory of clinching a tie for their second Valley crown by beating Drake (11-14) tonight.

"I think the guys have a lot of confidence in each other," Jacobson said. "They've got a lot of trust, regardless of the situation."

In the past decade, the Panthers hold a 21-19 record against Big Four competition. Iowa leads with an 18-13 record, while Iowa State is 17-14 and Drake is 15-25. The Panthers are 5-5 against Iowa, 4-6 against Iowa State and 12-8 against Drake.

The Ratings Percentage Index serves as another method of comparison.

Over the past 10 seasons, Northern Iowa has an average national RPI of 106.5, according to Jerry Palm of CollegeRPI.com.

Iowa leads the Big Four with a 95.0, while Iowa State is 109.5 and Drake, 163.2.

The Panthers, who now average 5,380 fans in the

four-year-old McLeod Center, continue to make strides, posting a record of 7-1 against opponents in the RPI top 100.

The Hawkeyes and Cyclones are a combined 0-23.

"You are limited, because who wants to play UNI?" said Mac McCausland, a television analyst for ESPN and the Valley. "They have taken on all comers and had success. They've done well with the schedule they can put together."

Big Four Victories Since 2000-01

	Conf.	Overall	NCAAs
UNI	96	177	4
Iowa	68	174	3
ISU	60	166	2
Drake	75	146	1

Northern Iowa's individual player statistics

Northern Iowa's scores and schedule

Missouri Valley Conference standings

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Posted on Fri, Feb. 12, 2010

O'Rear provides spark for 19th-ranked Panthers

BY LUKE MEREDITH

DES MOINES, Iowa

At first glance, it's hard to view Northern Iowa junior forward Lucas O'Rear as a Division I player, let alone the spark plug of the Missouri Valley powerhouse.

Whether it's the mutton chops, the messy hair or the green shamrock on his shoulder, O'Rear looks more like the burly dude from a local pickup game than a game-changer for the 19th-ranked Panthers.

Then the whistle blows.

The 6-foot-6, 255-pound O'Rear is the first one off the bench when things get hairy, setting screens, grabbing boards, taking charges and making a pest of himself. On a team devoid of star power, O'Rear is a perfect fit for the scrappy Panthers.

"His toughness and his competitiveness, those two things are at such a high level," Northern Iowa coach Ben Jacobson said. "He's got those two things as part of his personality at the highest level, and I think that is what impacts our team the most."

The pedestrian stats - 4.3 points, 4.4 rebounds a game and zero starts - belie how important he has become to the Panthers (22-2, 13-1 MVC). Northern Iowa can clinch the conference outright with a win at Bradley on Saturday.

It didn't used to be this way for O'Rear, a native of tiny Nashville, Ill. He was the star back in high school, averaging 19 points, 10.6 rebounds and four blocks a game in leading Nashville to a 33-1 record his senior year.

But like a lot of high school standouts, O'Rear was never destined to be a college star. Instead of holding out hope that he'd someday find the spotlight, O'Rear quickly realized his limitations - a lack of size and athleticism - and set out to make the most of what he had.

He's been doing so since he was just a boy. The youngest of two brothers, O'Rear's world was shattered when his mother, Monica, died on Christmas Day in 2000. Lucas said the tragedy brought the family closer and helped him become more mature. The shamrock on O'Rear's shoulder is accompanied by the words "O'Rear Brothers," a tribute to his family.

"Everybody had to pull together and me and my brother had to pick up the slack and help my dad after she passed," O'Rear said. "Everybody knows it's harder to be a single parent trying to put two boys through college, through high school and to be there and support them in whatever they do. My dad an awesome job. That's who I look up to."

O'Rear also loves baseball, and that's where his future may lie.

A right-handed reliever with a fastball that can hit 90 mph, he struck out 15 batters in 17 1/3 innings for the Panthers last spring - the program's final season because of budget cuts. O'Rear had a limited stint with the Rochester Honkers of the Northwoods League, a summer circuit for college players.

O'Rear hasn't decided whether he'll pursue a career in baseball, though he intends to explore that possibility.

For now, he's content with playing basketball at Northern Iowa - and so are his teammates.

With the Panthers up just two points at rival Drake on Wednesday night, O'Rear drew a charge on Bulldogs freshman Seth VanDeest and pumped his fist like he just hit a game-winning shot.

Ali Farokhmanesh followed with two long 3s - one off a tough pass from O'Rear near the sidelines - to key a 15-0 run that gave Northern Iowa a 57-48 win.

"He does so many things for our team. He's so well-rounded. Rebounds, defensively - everything he does is a huge part of our success this year," senior forward Adam Koch said.

Jacobson also credits O'Rear's versatility for helping make the Panthers go. He can spell Koch and starting center Jordan Eglseider for extended minutes if they get in foul trouble, but he can also provide an instant spark after prolonged periods on the bench.

O'Rear's biggest asset to the team, according to Jacobson, is the tone he sets with his work ethic. Even in practice, O'Rear can't stand it if he misses a loose ball or a defensive switch.

"It really sends a message to everyone in our program," Jacobson said. "(O'Rear) says 'I'm going to do my job the best I can.' His job isn't as glamorous as some of the other ones, and that just sends a loud message that this is a team deal. And that's invaluable."

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O'Rear energizes UNI teammates, fans

By KELLY BEATON, kelly.beaton@wcfcourier.com | Posted: Sunday, February 7, 2010 9:30 am

CEDAR FALLS - Jordan Eglseider laughs mischievously when describing Lucas O'Rear's rock-solid screens.

"He's definitely one of the best screeners I've ever played with," Eglseider said of his Northern Iowa teammate. "It sets the tempo for the team."

O'Rear, a 6-foot-6, 256-pound enforcer, might be the most underrated Panther. But he - like his entire team - is gathering steam.

"His impact on our team is his toughness and his energy, things that certainly don't show up on any stat sheets," noted Ben Jacobson, coach of the 24th-ranked Panthers (21-2). "He just brings everything he's got, all the time. And that's really had a major impact."

After averaging just 2.4 points per game and 3.1 rebounds in UNI's first seven contests this season, O'Rear has averaged 6.0 and 6.0 since Jan. 12. The junior is also ninth in the Missouri Valley Conference in offensive rebounding, despite playing just 19.0 minutes per game.

"I would have to explain that with (the fact) I lost a little bit of weight," said O'Rear, the reigning Valley sixth man of the year, after a recent practice. "That was kind of weighing me down. Since the beginning of the year I've lost 12 to 15 pounds, (after) me and Coach Jake sat down" and addressed the issue.

After leaving his excess pounds behind, O'Rear has been off and running. For much of the past month he has owned the interior, produced a slew of put-backs, and has ceaselessly tormented opponents.

All of which, of course, has furthered the rare love affair between Panther fans and the power forward. Chants of his name often rain down from the McLeod Center stands.

"I think we got it started, over where I sit. We do the 'Luuuuke.' It started in our row and spread. It's fantastic," said longtime Panther fan Doug Kangas, who proudly resides in section R during home games.

Whether it's O'Rear's thick, mutton-chop sideburns, his colorful personality, or his blue-collar work ethic, something about the Nashville, Ill., native simply connects with Cedar Valley fans.

"It's always a blast to hear your name (chanted), especially when you're not the guy that goes out there and drops 20 points or is the star player," said O'Rear - on a day he decided to wear a camouflage T-shirt under his practice jersey.

Many players with O'Rear's talents would sulk if relegated to a reserve role. He is, after all, a power forward that often leaves the shot clock flapping like a flag in the breeze after his dunks. But the Panthers' sixth man embraces his status.

"You've got to," he explained. "Somebody's got to do the dirty work - go in there and bang bodies, get rebounds. I mean, when you recruit somebody you don't tell them that's what you want them to do, but that's what Coach asked me to do. So I'm stepping up in that role."

Without question, O'Rear plays basketball with passion. But he's especially passionate about baseball, too - and that has muddled the 21-year-old's future.

O'Rear has a real shot at professional baseball. Alas, Northern Iowa no longer has a baseball program, after dropping the sport early last year.

As a result, O'Rear is a right-handed pitcher who has been bombarded with questions about his future, such as if he'll return to UNI to play a fourth year of basketball next winter.

"I have no clue, honestly," said the junior. "I'm concentrating on basketball right now.

"I mean, possibly is there baseball? Yeah. But I'm not focused on that right now. But I'm not saying I'm not gonna give it a try. We'll just see where that goes in the future.

"As of right now, I'm coming back (to UNI next year); I don't see any reason for me not to. I mean, (it's) one more year to graduate, we're gonna have another solid (basketball) team ..."

Last summer, O'Rear produced a 0.00 ERA in four appearances on the mound for the Rochester Honkers and he could return to the Northwoods League again this year. That could satisfy his baseball itch, and allow for a senior season on the hardwood with UNI.

"You can always just keep your arm in shape," said O'Rear, noting one of his other baseball options. "You can always just throw long-toss and in bullpens.

"I've talked to scouts and they've said it's maybe possible to, you know, get drafted (in baseball), come back and play (basketball as a senior), and after I get done playing basketball then pick (baseball) up big-time."

That said, Lucas O'Rear is one Panther trying to focus on the present. O'Rear is UNI's main energy source - and the Panther cagers plan to utilize that until at least mid-March.

"He's got a bounce to his step in practice, and his energy-level is great," said Jacobson. "He's cranked up on game night."

Road warriors: Parents rack up miles to see sons play UNI ball

By NANCY NEWHOFF, nancy.newhoff@wfcourier.com | Posted: Friday, January 29, 2010 11:45 am

CEDAR FALLS - It's 10 a.m. on a University of Northern Iowa men's basketball game day, and Dr. Brian and Donna Koch are on the road.

The Kochs will drive the five-plus hours one-way to Cedar Falls to see their two sons, Adam and Jake, play for the Panthers, a team that has been nationally ranked this season and is leading the Missouri Valley Conference.

They will arrive in time to see the boys before the game, then wait for them after the game. They will then take the brothers and other teammates to a late dinner. The Kochs will spend the night in Cedar Falls and then head back home the next day.

It's a routine they try to keep as much as possible, while still caring for two other children at home. But it's one that has brought them immeasurable happiness as they watch their two oldest sons bond with each other and with a team they love.

"It's something every parent hopes - that they go to a school that they like: You drop them off their freshman year and you go 'This is it. This is right. It feels good.' And that's what we had with both boys," said Donna Koch.

The Kochs are from Ashwaubenon, Wis., a suburb of Green Bay. Brian is a dentist with his own practice along with two partners. Brian, who is 6 feet, 6 inches tall, played college basketball for University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Donna, who is 6 feet tall, went to the state track meet in high school.

Adam, 21, a UNI senior, and Jake, a redshirt freshman who turns 20 Feb. 5, are the first brothers to play on the UNI team together since Gary and Duane Jensen in the 1968-69 season. It's a unique situation for the team that Coach Ben Jacobson said has added an element of fun for the staff and players.

"I think they have had a great influence on each other. Adam (6 feet, 8 inches tall) really sticks to business; he's real workmanlike. He's help Jake become a little more workmanlike. Jake's (6 feet, 9 inches tall) a bit of a jokester and always has a smile on his face, and a great sense of humor. He's helped Adam that way a little bit. He keeps things light. And that's been good for our team and they have been great for each other," Jacobson said.

For Brian and Donna, seeing the boys happy makes them happy.

"This has just worked out great," Brian said.

The parents have Ben, a 6-foot-3-inch high school freshman, at home, as well as third-grader Maddie, their only girl. Ben also is involved in basketball and Maddie plays basketball and swims.

Both parents can't always be at the UNI games if the schedules of the other two conflict too much. But they also have both of their parents in the area who stay with the kids when Brian and Donna hit the road. They have been able to get to many of the road games as well, flying to Wichita State and making the long drive to Illinois State. They have not been able to get to Springfield, Mo., for Missouri State road games.

Brian is able to adjust his dental practice around the UNI schedule. His partners cover for him when he is gone.

When only one can be at the UNI game, they rely on text-messaging to keep each other up to speed on how the kids back in Ashwaubenon are doing and how the Panthers are doing.

The Kochs are not unique when it comes to supporting their kids. Teammate Jordan Eglseider's mom has not missed a game this year, and Ali Farokhmaneski's folks get to nearly all of the games as well. But if some parent can't get to a game, other parents pitch in, adding the players to the post-game dinner.

"They do the same when we're not able to do it," Brian Koch said.

And the Koch boys always love Saturday night home games. They have a set date each Sunday morning for breakfast with their dad at Village Inn.

Dunham puts in his office hours for UNI

By KELLY BEATON, kelly.beaton@wfcourier.com | Posted: Friday, January 29, 2010 11:45 am

CEDAR FALLS - Kerwin Dunham can be a cut-up. Seriously.

The Northern Iowa guard - despite often appearing like an introvert - appreciates the comedic stylings of Michael Scott and all his employees on "The Office," and even recites their most memorable quotes on occasion.

But, if Dunham seems a bit more serious at basketball practice than the rest of his Panther teammates, it's with good reason. Dunham has a bit more on his plate these days than the average 21-year-old college kid. He got engaged over Christmas break, for example.

"He's got a little more responsibility off the floor, with being engaged," noted UNI coach Ben Jacobson. "And I think you see that with his approach to everything he does. He's real businesslike, and real straightforward."

"It's pretty wild," a smiling Dunham said of his pending nuptials. "I mean (life) hasn't really changed too much. But, when we get married, I think it'll change a lot."

On the basketball court, the Bondurant native is experiencing plenty of positive changes, too.

Dunham, a 6-foot-6 swingman, scored a career-high 14 points in last Sunday's victory at Indiana State after earning his first start since Nov. 25, 2008.

For the first time all year, Dunham put his feathery shooting touch on display against the Sycamores, sinking 4 of 5 field goal attempts.

"They left me open a lot," Dunham shrugged. "The first time we played them, they ... sagged off me. So we worked on that in practice, and I knocked down some shots."

On a basketball floor, Dunham seems to do everything smoothly. On his shots, the lanky 200-pounder brings the ball over his head and flicks it effortlessly. When on target, his shots are usually swishes - no surprise, considering Dunham scored 2,205 points as a prep.

Panther fans might wonder: Why does Dunham, who scored 28.1 points per night as a high school senior, average just 3.1 field-goal attempts per game?

Selflessness, say those close to him.

"Kerwin's a really quiet kid. That's his personality," noted guard Ali Farokhmanesh. "... I think his personality plays out on the basketball floor, too.

"He doesn't make a lot of mistakes, doesn't force things."

"He's definitely got the shot," said teammate Johnny Moran of Dunham. "Sometimes he's just not as aggressive as he needs to be for our team. (But) he can score, and I think he'll really start to surprise some teams during the second half of conference (play)."

Of course, every member of the UNI contingent is well-aware of what the angular junior brings to the table on the defensive end.

"He's done a nice job of guarding. And that doesn't show up on any stat sheet, of course," said Jacobson, who also praised Dunham's sterling, 26-to-9 overall assist-to-turnover ratio.

"That's the staple of our team - working all day, everyday, on our defense," explained Dunham, "and making sure we're being

hard-nosed defenders. That's kind of what our team hangs its hat on."

Dunham is humble to his very core, which would seem to endear him to UNI coaches like Jacobson, a North Dakota native who cringes when praise is passed his way.

"We gravitate toward guys that can play," Jacobson corrected, smiling. "And Kerwin, he sticks to business, is a team guy, and has a feel for how to play - those are the guys we're looking for."

Ahelegbe takes game to new level

By KELLY BEATON, kelly.beaton@wcfcourier.com | Posted: Sunday, December 27, 2009 6:45 am

CEDAR FALLS - Ben Jacobson was a solid basketball player back in the day. In fact, he graduated in 1994 as North Dakota's all-time assists leader.

But Ben Jacobson - past or present - has a hard time keeping pace with Kwadzo Ahelegbe.

"I did play the game, but I didn't have the same high gear he's got," laughed Jacobson, now the University of Northern Iowa's head coach.

Ahelegbe, according to his coach, "has really improved his conditioning. He's a little bit quicker than he was a year ago. So he has the ability to score in different ways, and that's a real key."

In an era where players are infatuated with the 3-pointer, Ahelegbe, a 6-foot-2, 200-pound point guard, is seemingly the last player on the planet who takes 15-foot, pull-up jumpers.

And that fact has served UNI (9-1) well this season. The Minnesota native averaged a team-high 14.4 points per game during non-conference play.

"That's from the old days, when I was playing my (three older) brothers - because I could never get to the rim," Ahelegbe joked, "so I would have to shoot short little pull-ups."

"That (mid-range, pull-up jumper) is what I work on still," he added, "because that's a tough shot to guard."

Actually, so are Ahelegbe's 3-pointers. He entered the week leading the Missouri Valley Conference, shooting 57.9 percent from beyond the arc.

Panther fans may have also noticed Ahelegbe's improved, rainbow-like arch on jump shots.

You can credit UNI coaching consultant Jim Berry for that. Berry, the former longtime UNI and Waterloo Columbus head coach, has preached consistency in shooting mechanics, producing a high, parabolic shot trajectory, and holding the follow-through after a shot.

"Every time we shoot," Ahelegbe noted, "we hear Coach Berry's voice in the back of our head, talking about 'arch and freeze.' And that stuff goes a long way."

As a result, it appears Ahelegbe can carry UNI a long way this season.

"He's a great leader. He's been able to push all of us freshmen," said UNI guard Marc Sonnen, who, like Ahelegbe, attended Tartan High School in Oakdale, Minn.

"I expect a lot of him, on both ends of the floor," Jacobson said of the junior.

Whether driving intensely to the basket or putting the clamps down defensively, Ahelegbe always tries to apply pressure to opponents.

"I always want to keep pressure on my man," he explained. "I never want him to relax - ever."

The point guard credits his mentor, former nine-year NBA veteran Chris Carr, for much of his success. Carr, a former Southern Illinois star in the early 1990s who enjoyed his most pro success with the Minnesota Timberwolves, has tutored Ahelegbe in recent offseasons at his Twin Cities-area "43 Hoops Basketball Academy." Through Carr, Ahelegbe once got to play NBA

superstar Kevin Garnett.

Ahelegbe said he spent all of last summer in the Twin Cities, "spending time with my son (one-year old Makhi Anthony), and working out."

The Panther star credits Carr's basketball academy for helping him stoke his already fiery passion for the game of basketball.

Now Ahelegbe is trying to harness that passion. The 21-year-old drew criticism from some after UNI's 67-50 rout of Iowa Dec. 8 for shaking his head late in the game and appearing to taunt Hawkeyes like guard Anthony Tucker - a fellow native of the Twin Cities area.

"It was just me talking to myself," Ahelegbe said. "I learned that a lot from Kevin Garnett; if you can psyche yourself up every game like how he does - internally - you'll play (wonderfully)."

"I was just trying to get myself psyched up, because every game is a battle."

With Ahelegbe piloting their offense, the Panthers appear well-armed as Missouri Valley Conference action nears.

UNI's success begins with defense

By KELLY BEATON, kelly.beaton@wcfcourier.com | Posted: Tuesday, January 12, 2010 11:45 am

CEDAR FALLS - Johnny Moran wears floor burns like badges of honor.

Jordan Eglseider is a rare 7-footer willing to take a charge.

Kerwin Dunham, Kwadzo Ahelegbe and Lucas O'Rear all love to irritate their opponents when playing man-to-man.

Yes, the defense never rests for the University of Northern Iowa. And, that's one key reason why the Panthers reside at the top of the Missouri Valley Conference basketball standings.

Illinois State coach Tim Jankovich was left shaking his head Saturday after his club produced the lowest scoring output of his tenure in Normal, Ill., in a 59-44 Panther triumph.

"They're incredibly sound," Jankovich noted of the Panthers (14-1, 5-0 MVC). "They're very detail-oriented on the defensive end.

"And they're very experienced," he added. "It's a talented team that's very well-coached and has played a million minutes. I think that combination is why they're such a strong team."

Indeed, veterans like Eglseider (team-high 12 blocks), Moran (19 steals) and Ahelegbe (13 steals) have served UNI's defense well. Illinois State big man Dinma Odiakosa described Eglseider's length as "frustrating."

And Moran and Ahelegbe were two Panther defenders who stuck to Illinois State star Osiris Eldridge like glue on ball screens Saturday, pushing Eldridge farther away from the basket.

Yet, UNI's reserves have been effective at times, too. Near the 11-minute mark Saturday - with Illinois State within 10 at 40-30 - UNI's lineup included reserves Marc Sonnen, Kerwin Dunham, Lucas O'Rear and Jake Koch. And, that group actually extended the Panthers' lead.

Coach Ben Jacobson expected upperclassmen O'Rear and Dunham to be harrasing opponents in MVC play. He is, however, pleasantly surprised by the poise of freshmen like Sonnen, Jake Koch and Anthony James, who have helped their club limit league opponents to 38.6 percent field-goal shooting.

"Those guys practice hard," Jacobson noted. "I've got trust in those young guys (but) their teammates - those juniors and seniors - have a lot of trust in Marc and A.J. and Jake, and I think that, more than anything, gives those three freshmen some confidence."

Other factors cited for UNI's league-leading defense (56.3 points per game allowed) include Eglseider's ability to avoid foul trouble (he's averaging fewer than two fouls per contest) and the team's ability to usually limit foes to a single shot per possession.

"We're just basically staying in our same principles," explained senior Adam Koch, "and working hard, guarding, getting box-outs and rebounding - that's been pretty consistent in most of our games, and it's been working well so far."

Keeler: Freshman Marc Sonnen brings toughness, worker's mentality to UNI

Updated 8:30 pm

SEAN KEELER • sekeeler@dmreg.com • March 6, 2010

St. Louis, Mo. — The story reads from shoulder-to-shoulder, the road map of a man's soul. It starts with the tattoo of a cross on Marc Sonnen's upper left arm, weaves its way down to the heart on his bare chest, then over to a small drawing of a woman on the upper right arm.

"This is my mom," Sonnen explained, using his finger as a guide, after Northern Iowa's 57-40 rout of Bradley in the Missouri Valley Conference semifinals. "She passed away when I was younger."

Brain cancer. Marc was 10. His father, Dan, said he could get a tattoo in Gayle's honor once he turned 18. Marc got three.

"You know how much she went through," said the freshman guard, who led the Panthers with 10 points in 18 minutes off the bench. "So a little bit of practice, a little bit of everything else, you know, I can fight through that. She fought through brain cancer and almost made it. So it's kind of something I can do for her."

Lose a parent when you're young, you tend to grow up in a hurry. From a maturity standpoint, Sonnen is 19 going on 37, tougher than tree bark.

As a senior at Tartan High School, the 6-foot-3 St. Paul, Minn., native earned all-metro honors in football. A quarterback/safety, he also led the team in tackles. For Northern Iowa coach Ben Jacobson,

who preaches the virtues of elbows, toughness, and brass-knuckle defense, it was love at first sight.

"We had, like, three kids break their noses in practice," Sonnen said of his first college season. "Got my head cut open, bloody eyes. I'm practicing more with (the first team) now, but early on, you'd get hit with a screen and you'd just want to curl up."

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UNI men's basketball: Panthers advance to MVC Tournament final

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Sonnen's the one swinging the big stick now. During the first half of Saturday's Arch Madness semifinal, the Tartan terror collected two steals, reaching in with both mitts and stripping the rock from Bradley ball carriers the way a linebacker does during "rip" drills.

"He came in as a good defender, and I think he's made some improvements there," noted Jacobson, whose team will play in the Valley's nationally televised championship game for a second straight March. "And he's playing against juniors and seniors as a freshman, and they turn the corner on you. Now, he's able to guard them without fouling. That's certainly helped him."

So has the work ethic. With the crew cut and the quick release, Sonnen looks like he walked straight off the set of the movie "Hoosiers," body art notwithstanding. He's bulked up from 175 pounds a year ago to the low 190s, squatting 300 pounds comfortably a few months after maxing out at 225.

"When I first came in, when I'd get hit, I'd lose the ball," Sonnen said. "Now I'm able to take the ball to

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the basket and able to sit down and guard people."

It's in the water, in the blood. Sonnen is the latest cog to flow down the pipeline from Tartan High to Cedar Falls, following in the footsteps of former Panthers stars Erik Crawford and Eric Coleman. The Fighting Jakes' current point guard, Kwadzo Ahelegbe, was a senior at Tartan when Sonnen was a freshman.

"Never wanted to shoot," Ahelegbe recalled with a grin. "I had to literally say swear words at him, telling him to shoot the ball.

"He's come full circle, man. Him and Anthony (James) both, they can be tremendous. That's the future, right there."

The present isn't too shabby, either.

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Sunday, March 7, 2010

Panthers have eyes on a bigger prize

By Pat Forde
ESPN.com

ST. LOUIS -- When the NCAA tournament pairings roll out next Sunday night, some luckless team is going to draw a mid-major opponent that poses high-major problems.

It will draw Northern Iowa.

The Panthers may not look like much in a bracket, or even in a layup line. But that changes at tipoff.

Some "name" team will draw an opponent skilled in the art of strangulation defense. An opponent dedicated to frustration tempo. An opponent that cares for the basketball as if it were made of platinum. An opponent with plenty of size and heft in the low post. An opponent that's deeper than Kierkegaard and better balanced than Comaneci. An opponent with eight juniors and seniors. An opponent with a rising star of a coach. And an opponent that has danced before, learning from the experience.

In other words, that name team will draw a first-round knockout.

"They'll win games in the NCAA tournament," said Wichita State coach Gregg Marshall, who has been to seven previous Big Dances while at Winthrop. "They'll win at least one, if not two games, in the NCAA tournament."

Marshall made that declaration after his Shockers were beaten by Northern Iowa 67-52 in the Missouri Valley Conference tournament final. It was the Panthers' third victory in this tourney by 15 points or more, as the 28-4 team that dominated the regular season did the same thing here.

Marshall's 25-win team almost assuredly had to win this game to get in the Big Dance and appeared to have a shot at it early in the second half, leading 41-37. Then it was simply suffocated, scoring one point in a span of 10 minutes and 21 seconds against the airtight Panthers defense.

The Shockers became the third team to shoot 33 percent or worse in this tournament against Northern Iowa. They also became the third team to go an eternity without a made basket, following Drake (zero field goals in a staggering 21-minute stretch Friday) and Bradley (zero field goals in a seven-minute stretch Saturday).

"They're well-schooled [defensively]," Marshall said. "[UNI coach Ben Jacobson] does a great job. They're tough. They're not super athletic, but they're always in the right position, and they're very, very physical and strong. They're going to give somebody in the NCAA tournament an L, and give them fits at that end of the floor."

The fits wouldn't quit for the Shockers on Sunday, against a team that wouldn't make mistakes.



Seven-footer Jordan Eglseder, left, was a big factor in UNI's suffocating defensive effort.

The Panthers turned the ball over just five times and were a plus-11 in the turnover department. For the tourney they turned it over 20 times while forcing 42.

"

They're well-schooled [defensively]. [UNI coach Ben Jacobson] does a great job. They're tough. They're not super athletic, but they're always in the right position, and they're very, very physical and strong. They're going to give somebody in the NCAA tournament an L, and give them fits at that end of the floor.

" -- *Wichita State coach Gregg Marshall*

That put a premium on every Wichita possession, and those possessions became steadily more futile as the game progressed. The Shockers missed 15 straight shots in one second-half stretch -- some of them decent looks, but many of them contested perimeter jump shots after the Panthers simply walled off all paths to the basket.

The Wichita State players said they settled for jumpers in the second half. But there also weren't many other good options, since driving to the basket was supremely difficult against UNI's disciplined man-to-man, and 7-foot center Jordan Eglseider was anchored in the lane to swat away five shots.

The Shockers disputed suggestions that fatigue was a factor in their second-half fade, but Northern Iowa's hockey-style substitutions clearly played a part in the runaway. At several points during the game, Jacobson ran line changes at Wichita -- five guys out, five fresh guys in. The subs more than held their own, rewarding their coach's faith in them.

"Our bench stepped up huge for us tonight," said starting guard Ali Farokhmanesh. "They kind of wore down the starters for Wichita."

This is nothing new for UNI, which has four guys averaging between nine and 12 points per game. Ten Panthers played at least nine minutes against Wichita. Ten played at least that much in the semifinals against Bradley. And nine played at least that much in the quarters against Drake.

What was new was the offensive contribution of redshirt freshman Jake Koch. The younger brother of MVC Player of the Year Adam Koch had not scored -- or even attempted a shot -- in UNI's first two wins here. Then in the final he went off for 13, making three 3-pointers along the way.

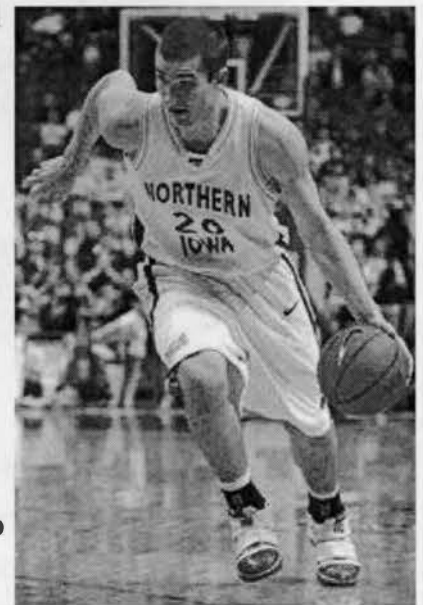
"He can play so well," older brother Adam said. "He can just be so timid at times."

Timidity vanished when it mattered most Sunday. And even if Jake Koch endures freshman jitters in the NAAs, his veteran teammates will be there to help him through. The experience the Panthers gained last year in losing in the first round to Purdue will serve them well this time around.

"The way we are in here is so different," Farokhmanesh said of the happy-but-not-giddy UNI locker room. "Last year we were so excited just to get in the tournament."

This year, the goals are much higher.

"It's one thing to get there," Adam Koch said, "and another to win a game or two and prove you really belong



It was Jake Koch, not brother Adam, who shined for the Panthers in the Missouri Valley title game.

with those guys."

Northern Iowa belongs. And some name team is going to find that out the hard way.

Pat Forde is a senior writer for ESPN.com. He can be reached at ESPN4D@aol.com.

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Northern Iowa is the real deal

Bernie Miklasz

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Monday, Mar. 08 2010

We're still six days away from Selection Sunday, and your office NCAA Tournament brackets are still a blank canvas, waiting to be written in. But when the time comes to make your picks, don't forget about Northern Iowa. The Panthers will be a tough out. They'll enter the tournament with sharp elbows, and even sharper minds.

Or maybe it's the other way around.

This much we know for sure: The University of Kurt Warner can hoop.

In sweeping through the State Farm Missouri Valley Conference Tournament over the weekend at Scottrade Center, Northern Iowa completed a dominant two-year run as the league's undisputed heavyweight champ.

Coach Ben Jacobson's experienced nucleus has gone 51-15 the last two seasons. That record includes 35 wins in 42 games against league opponents, including the conference tourney. With two consecutive titles in the bag, UNI has got to be one of the finest MVC teams of the modern era.

Sunday, No. 1 seed Northern Iowa dodged a threat and put the clamps on No. 2 seed Wichita State, 67-52. Using superior depth and applying its normal defensive vise, Northern Iowa gradually squeezed the energy from the latest Valley victim to clinch a spot in the NCAA Tournament.

How dangerous is Northern Iowa? MVC Player of the Year Adam Koch didn't score a point Sunday and the boys from UNI still won in a rout. Coach Jacobson rolled out the tanks and hit the Shockers with a 10-player attack, often substituting four or five at a time. In three MVC tournament wins, the Northern Iowa bench provided 222 minutes, 10 steals, 23 rebounds, 21.3 points per game and shot 56 percent.

Indeed. Northern Iowa reduced three tournament opponents to puddles of sweat.

In holding Drake, Bradley and Wichita State to 33 percent shooting and a puny average of 44 points per game, Northern Iowa reinforced its reputation as one of the nation's most exceptional defensive teams. In Division I, only Princeton has allowed fewer points per game this season. And opponents have 276 assists and 489 turnovers against the Panthers; that ratio is 28th best nationally by a D-1 defense.

The Panthers wiped out the Shockers with a second-half torrent of defense, going from six points down to the 15-point winning margin in about as much time as it took for a quick mop-up of the floor. Which, come to think of it, is exactly what happened: UNI swept Wichita State out of an automatic spot in the NCAA Tournament. And an at-large bid is doubtful for the Shockers.

"Northern Iowa's a great team," said Wichita State coach Gregg Marshall.

"They're well-coached, they're seasoned, they're experienced. They'll win games in the NCAA Tournament. They'll win at least one, if not two games, in the NCAA Tournament."

We agree, coach.

And we would add that as non-royals go — in other words, we concede this isn't Kansas, Kentucky, Duke or another esteemed basketball blueblood — the Panthers are smart, tenacious, deep and do not make many stupid mistakes. This is not the kind of team that figures to eliminate itself from the tournament. Someone will have to deliver a legitimate knockout punch to drop Northern Iowa.

The only possible minus for UNI is the strength of competition. I'm a longstanding MVC fan and apologist, so it pains me to say this, but the Valley is stuck in a mediocre stretch. The league hasn't had more than one team in the NCAA Tournament since 2006-2007. In '06, the Valley put four teams in the NCAA Tournament, an invasion that caused basketball elitists Billy Packer and Jay Bilas to nearly implode on national TV. And two of the entries, Bradley and Wichita State, advanced to the round of Sweet 16.

Somewhere along the line, the MVC programs foolishly ignored commissioner Doug Elgin's intelligent formula for constructing a sturdy NCAA Tournament résumé. Elgin challenged the league's coaches and athletic directors to pursue more challenging schedules, take on BCS conferences and avoid feasting on cupcakes that would soften their Ratings Percentage Index (RPI).

Elgin's plan was the main reason four MVC teams crashed the NCAA Tournament in '06. And in 2007 — the last year the Valley had at an-large invitation — Southern Illinois was waved in largely due to ambitious scheduling. The Salukis' non-conference foes that season included Arkansas, Indiana, Butler, Virginia Tech, Minnesota, Western Kentucky and St. Mary's.

For some reason a wave of new coaches and ADs who have entered the MVC over the past few seasons think they know more than Elgin. Some of these guys have taken a knucklehead approach to scheduling, apparently believing that stockpiling junk-calorie wins against garbage teams is the best way to get into the NCAA Tournament. It isn't. In fact it is absolutely the dumbest, most damaging approach to scheduling for an MVC program. History confirms that. It isn't just the new guys, either. Some of veteran coaches need to be reminded too. Have these know-it-alls finally learned their lesson?

So as another successful Missouri Valley Conference tournament ends, I have a couple of wishes:

One, a successful NCAA Tournament for Northern Iowa. That means a win or two.

Two, a box of Q-tips for MVC coaches and ADs. Let them clean their ears and enhance their hearing. It'll help when it's time to listen to Elgin's lecture on scheduling.

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Reid: Northern Iowa will give some team fits in NCAA tourney

By Alvin Reid

Monday, March 8, 2010

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Alvin Reid

If you're Kansas, Kentucky or Syracuse you want no part of the University of Northern Iowa in the NCAA Tournament.

If you're Missouri and CBS flashes a bracket that pits you against UNI in the tournament's opening round, you might be in serious trouble.

If you're a middle of the pack team in the Big Ten, ACC or Atlantic 10 and you're in the tournament, you better pray your opening round opponent is not coach Ben Jacobson's Panthers.

UNI won the regular season Missouri Valley Conference title and followed it up with the MVC postseason championship with a 67-52 triumph Sunday over very competitive Wichita State University.

WSU matched UNI play for play in the first half and showed a national audience why they deserved to be the tournament's No. 2 seed.

But UNI's coach knew he had an advantage in the third game between these squads this season.

Jacobson not only sends talented players at the opponent, he sends them in waves. Only twice in this MVC championship game did he substitute just one player for another. Usually three or four fresh players check into the game to replace most of the unit on the court.

Led by super-sub fifth man Lucas O'Rear, a 6-foot-6 junior forward, the Panthers' bench is as lethal as its starting five.

Leading the starters is MVC Player of the Year Adam Koch. Guess how many points he scored on Sunday? Zero. Nada. Goose egg.

But his brother Jake Koch, a freshman guard, contributed 13 of the bench's 25 points including a pair of early three-pointers. Junior guard Kwadzo Ahelegbe, who started, had his biggest game of the season with 24 points — 17 came in the decisive second half.

WSU had a puncher's chance in the game, and they landed some solid shots on favored UNI in the first half. Guards Clevin Hannah (12 points) and Demetric Williams (8 points) hit key three pointers to keep UNI on its heels in the first half.

If I were a college coach there are few philosophies I would borrow from the NBA game, but one would be the "two-for-one" possessions at the end of a half.

Should you have possession of the ball with 50 seconds or a bit more left in the half, your strategy should be to quickly move the ball down court and get a shot off in less than 10 seconds. By doing this, you almost guarantee yourself the final possession of the half.

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Your bonus is the fact that your team could hit that first shot.

The Shockers used this strategy to perfection in the waning moments of the first half.

Trailing 27-25 with a minute left in the half, WSU raced the ball up the court and Hannah drilled a three pointer with 50 seconds left. UNI tied the game with a Jordan Eglseider free throw, but 21 seconds still remained in the half.

Williams drained another three for WSU with two seconds left on the clock and the Shockers ran off the court with a 31-28 lead and momentum.

But they left with tired legs. It would soon show in the second half.

During a fast-paced and well-played first half, Jacobson kept running his well-schooled players in and out of the game.

O'Rear, Jake Koch, Kerwin Dunham, Marc Sonnen and Anthony James all played significant minutes and all chipped in a few points and/or rebounds during the game.

Ali Farokhmanesh's three-point play coming out of a TV time out gave UNI its first lead since the first half at 43-41 and Jake Koch's third three of the game pushed the lead to 46-42 with 9:31 left in the game.

Suddenly, the UNI crowd was back in the game as well as the team.

It should be noted that the Panthers – including Jacobson – play to their crowd. They look up and point at their purple and gold clad fans. They pump fists and wave their arms asking for more support when the team needs it.

The team and the fans believe in one another and they aren't afraid to show it.

WSU, which played so valiantly and deserves an NCAA bid, simply withered as the game pressed on. Missed shots and turnovers replaced the three pointers and well-executed plays of the first half.

WSU's staunch defense actually held up under pressure for most of the game, but UNI suddenly had open looks instead of contested shots.

A close game became one-sided as UNI held WSU without a field goal for more than 12 minutes.

UNI is a tremendous team. But fatigue had more to do with WSU's demise than UNI excellence.

This was a matter of attrition, and General Jacobson knew he had the advantage.

My seat on media row was behind Earl Austin Jr., who was broadcasting the championship game. Austin, who also is the color commentator for the red-hot Saint Louis Billikens, turned to me in the first half and said of UNI, "they are just so solid."

I think Austin has the most acute basketball mind in Missouri. He knows his stuff.

After the game he said, "Nobody wants to play them."

As a Kansas fan, I want the Panthers to be anywhere else but the regional where the Jayhawks are assigned.

KU could be the top seed in the Midwest Regional, which would mean two wins would put them in the Edward Jones Dome.

The last thing I want to see back in St. Louis would be UNI. They like our city. They like to play hard. They like to play as one.

"They're going to give somebody in the NCAA tournament an 'L' and some fits," said WSU coach Gregg Marshall said after the game.

The top seeds know this – and they are crossing their fingers they don't cross paths with the UNI Panthers.

Contact Globe-Democrat.com sports columnist Alvin Reid at areid@globe-democrat.com

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Comments



A win for the ages: 20 years ago, UNI rocked college basketball

By KELLY BEATON, kelly.beaton@wcfcourier.com | Posted: Sunday, March 14, 2010 7:00 am

CEDAR FALLS - Eldon Miller has a favorite, go-to phrase regarding negativity: "That," the coach says, "is worth a grain of sand in the Sahara."

Perhaps that thinking served as the impetus to push the Northern Iowa Panthers to their most memorable men's basketball victory ever. On March 16, 1990 - 20 years ago this week - Miller's 14th-seeded, cardiac cats clawed their way to a 74-71, NCAA Tournament triumph over Missouri.

The win, which came against a Missouri squad that had been ranked No. 1 multiple times that season, remains UNI's only NCAA Tournament victory.

And that win is still a frequent topic of conversation for the Panthers who were a part of it - and virtually anyone who witnessed it.

"I remember exactly where I was when that happened," said Doug Elgin, veteran commissioner of the Missouri Valley Conference.

"I remember distinctly that upset, because it was a directional school. (And) that certainly was something the league noticed when (UNI) came into our league as a new member, in (1991-92)."

"That team was a magical team," Miller recalled last month. "And I think it kind of raised people's sights a bit and gave hope for the future."

The hype

The 1989-90 Panthers were sky-high after a wild, three-game run to the Association of Mid-Continent Universities tournament title in the UNI-Dome - a run that included a triple-overtime win over Illinois-Chicago in the opening round.

Then Selection Sunday rolled around, and reality made an unwelcomed arrival.

"I still remember," said Steve Phyfe, a former UNI standout who currently resides in Waverly. "We were down at one of the hotels downtown, and we all got together and watched (CBS' selection show). As soon as it was announced, everyone looked at each other and thoughts went through your mind, playing a big-time program in Missouri.

"It was like, 'Wow, we've got some work to do.'"

Former point guard Dale Turner, now a varsity prep basketball coach in St. Louis, insisted the Panthers embraced the challenge that the 26-5, Big Eight-champion Missouri Tigers and stars like Anthony Peeler, Nathan Buntin and Doug Smith presented.

"We were kind of excited about getting Mizzou," Turner recalled. "We knew they had been ranked number one. ... We had a chance to watch them numerous times on TV."

Earlier that season, UNI had edged rival Iowa in front of 22,797 fans in the UNI-Dome. But, making their first-ever appearance in the "Big Dance," in Richmond, Va., brought increased intensity.

"We knew we were probably overmatched - over-everything'ed," said Phyfe, light-heartedly.

Fortunately for UNI, Miller, a former Ohio State sideline general, was largely unflappable. He had confidence in a roster seemingly overloaded with Iowans from Nashua and Winterset.

"Coach Miller and his staff came up with the game plan," said Turner. "And that was to get back on defense and not allow those guys to get back in transition, and make them (play) half-court. That was what we did."

Miller managed to keep UNI, which averaged 78.7 points per game that season, surprisingly loose as tip-off neared on March 16.

"We were having a great time," noted Nick Pace, a former Panther center. "In fact, we were driving to the game on the team bus in Richmond, and the Missouri bus was actually on the same street at the same time. ... We were at a stoplight and the light changed. Our bus driver beat their bus off the line. We were hooting and hollering on the bus, hoping that was a sign of things to come. And it was."

The shot

Backed by Miller's foresight, the Panthers blazed to early leads of 22-8 and 42-31, sinking eight of 12 first-half 3-point attempts.

Yet, the supremely talented Tigers worked their way back in it, despite the fact their all-American forward, Smith, fouled out late, and Peeler shot just 1-for-7 for the game.

Finally, a 3-point play by Missouri's Buntin restored a bit of order, tying the game at 71-all, with 22 seconds remaining.

Some of what happened next is hazy, but few have forgotten the final result.

Turner, who has coached a few phenoms like Tyler Hansbrough in recent years, insisted that Miller drew up the last play for him against Missouri.

"The play actually was designed as a high screen-and-roll for myself," said Turner, now a first-year head coach at St. Louis' Miller Career Academy. "It was just basically set for me to turn the corner, get in the lane and make something happen."

However, coming out of UNI's timeout with 10 seconds to go, Maurice Newby leapt off the bench with purpose and checked into the contest.

"Well," Turner explained, "Maurice was probably a foot or two behind the line - and he could shoot it from 21, 22 feet, no problem. For him to raise up and shoot it, most people were probably surprised, but I wasn't. Maurice set his feet and got a good look.

"It was a great feeling to see that ball go in."

From five feet behind the 3-point line, Newby let fly from the left wing. Soon after, the ball found its intended target - the bottom of the basket - and the name 'Newby' became as loathed in Missouri as 'Newman' was in episodes of "Seinfeld."

Newby, now living in Germany, has lost touch with most members of the Panther basketball fraternity. But his old teammates have no problem recalling the March Madness he inspired two decades ago.

"Mo was a great shooter, a streaky shooter," noted Phyfe, "and a guy that had the confidence to take the shot. I was the first one out to him, to hug him. It was one of those things you just remember forever."

Indelible images

If you saw Newby's game-winner once, you can probably still recall the TV color analyst's account.

"Oh, Newby. Newby! ... Are you kidding me?! ... The guy off the bench?! He hadn't played in 10 minutes! Wow!" screamed the analyst, on footage that still endures through Internet outlets like youtube.com.

Pace can still vividly remember a call he took from a pay phone outside the UNI locker room after UNI's historic upset.

"This pay phone was just ringing and ringing," said Pace, now an associate professor at his alma mater. "So I grabbed it, and it was the governor's office, calling to congratulate us.

"I said, 'Who wants to talk to the Governor?'"

Former Missouri coach Norm Stewart doesn't need to see replays to recall the overjoyed Panthers, the big-haired cheerleaders or a 1990 Southeast Region opener gone horribly wrong.

"We got bumped off by a good team," recalled Stewart, in a 2007 Courier interview. "Anthony Peeler and I still talk about that game.

"That was a tough ballgame," added Stewart, who, ironically, had coached the Panthers from 1962-67.

Lost in the shuffle all these years later is the fact UNI also pushed sixth-seed Minnesota to the brink in the NCAA's second round in 1990 before bowing, 81-78.

"Willie Burton - he went on to have a good NBA career - he hit us for 36," Turner noted. "If he gets 20, we get 'em."

Still, for the better part of a decade, that UNI win over Missouri was mentioned on virtually every list of the NCAA Tournament's top upsets. In recent years, it has been nudged aside by Davids like Davidson, which dropped a Goliath-like Georgetown squad in 2008.

So be it, say the 1990 Panthers. Their memories of decades' past never fade.

"Just the camaraderie we had as a unit then, and still now, means a lot," Turner noted.

"I'm kind of a present-day guy," Miller said recently. "What's important to me now is the people that were involved then. (And) one

thing that doesn't change is the relationship with those kids."

A win for the ages: 20 years ago, UNI rocked college basketball

By KELLY SEITZ

It was a historic night for the University of Northern Iowa. The team, led by coach Tom Izzo, had just won the national championship. The victory was a testament to the team's hard work and dedication. Izzo, who had coached the team for 20 years, was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. The team's success was a result of Izzo's coaching and the players' hard work. The team's victory was a win for the ages.

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UNI Panthers

5th NCAA Tournament Appearance in 7 Seasons

***Back-to-Back MVC Regular Season
& Tournament Champions***

Ben Jacobson - MVC Coach of the Year

***Adam Koch - Larry Bird MVC Player of the Year
& MVC Scholar-Athlete of the Year***

Lucas O'Rear - MVC Sixth Man of the Year